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IT'S HOTTER UNDER THE WATER

BOUILLABAISSE: EVERYONE'S FAVOURITE UNDER-THE-SEA SOUP PAGE 20

Family Services Minister Kerri Irvin-Ross unveiled the province's plan Tuesday to reduce reliance on hotels as emergency shelters for children in crisis. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Province vows new emergency foster child care

Family services. On any given day, dozens of Manitoba children are put up in hotel rooms because of lack of space

After more than a decade of criticism for using hotels to house children in care, Manitoba is promising to "overhaul" the system by creating new emergency foster care spaces and hiring permanent, better trained staff.

Manitoba has around 10,000 children in care — the highest proportion in the country — and the vast majority are aboriginal. On any given day, dozens of those children are put up in hotel rooms because there isn't room in a foster home.

Family Services Minister Kerri Irvin-Ross said the province is creating 71 new emergency foster home spots which will be spread out across the province.

It also plans to reduce its reliance on outside contract workers by hiring 210 permanent child-care workers over two years, she said. The province's goal is to eliminate the use of hotels, but Irvin-Ross said sometimes children end up there for good reason.

"Sometimes it's because of a breakdown in a placement and it's an emergency that needs to be addressed immediately. We do not want to have children sleeping on the streets. If it's a large sibling group, our goal is to keep siblings together," she said Tuesday. "Hotels really are the placement of last resort."

The province has been working to reduce the number of kids in hotels since 2000, but Irvin-Ross couldn't say why it has taken 14 years to bring more emergency spaces online and hire provincial staff rather than relying on outside agencies and contract staff.

Jay Rodgers, former CEO of Manitoba's Child and Family Services agency, said everyone acknowledges that hotels are not an ideal setting for children in care. The quality of care in hotels can be lacking and the surrounding neighbourhoods are not "great," he said. Most hotel stays are short, he added.

Rodgers is now heading up a child welfare facility that will be expanded under the overhaul to include a secure unit for 10 high-needs girls.

"It's young women like that with that type of history and complex needs that we're hoping to serve," Rodgers said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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The Winnipeg company behind a camera used to catch drivers that ignore school bus stop signs says numbers from a pilot project show Winnipeg drivers are among the country's worst offenders. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Drivers caught on camera ignoring school bus rules

Winnipeg invention. Device's pilot project shows city drivers among the worst offenders in Canada

SHANE GIBSON
shane.gibson@metronews.ca

The Winnipeg-based inventor of a camera used to catch drivers illegally passing school buses says motorists in his home province are among the country's worst offenders.

For the past 4-1/2 weeks, Teknisult, the local company behind the camera, has had 10 cameras installed on buses in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta for a pilot project watching drivers' behaviours around school buses with their stop signs activated.

Teknisult president Maurice Gregoire said cameras in Winnipeg have caught the vast majority of infractions.

"In Winnipeg we're seeing on average five violations per bus, per week," he said. "In the other provinces — Alberta and Saskatchewan combined — they're coming in at an average of 1.8 violations per bus, per week. So it's considerably less."

Gregoire said the hardest part of the project has been watching clips such as one caught in Winnipeg last week where a student was nearly hit by a vehicle that didn't stop.

"The first thing that goes through your head is, 'I don't want to be watching the video where a kid gets hit.'"

Drivers convicted of illegally passing a school bus in Manitoba face a fine of $673.65 and automatically get two demerit points tacked on to their licence.

"It's an expensive fine and I would suggest that reflects the seriousness of the offence," said Patrol Sgt. Damian Turner of Winnipeg police's Central Traffic Unit.

While Teknisult's camera isn't currently part of the province's photo enforcement legislation — meaning a picture of a violator alone isn't enough to convict an offender — Turner said shots taken by the device can be valuable evidence when combined with a statement from witnesses like bus drivers or parents.

Tickets

Winnipeg police have doled out 17 tickets for illegally passing a school bus so far this year, down slightly from the 20 given out last year.

** Source: WPS*

Henderson road repair. Delays frustrate councillor

The delay of the repair of a vital stretch of road in North Kildonan is "disappointing," says its local councillor.

Coun. Jeff Browaty sent out a letter to his constituents informing them of the delay in the construction project on the northbound lanes of Henderson Highway between McLeod Avenue and Springfield Road.

"What's disappointing is that they're going to have to come back and do some additional repair work next year, there's going to be inconvenience to the area businesses and the residents next year as well," said Browaty.

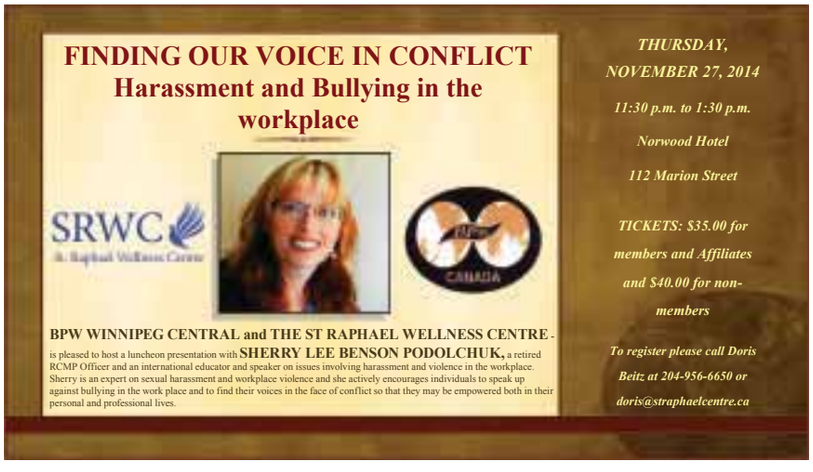
A city spokeswoman said construction on the lanes will continue until late November, and then shut down "for the season."

"All sidewalks, sewers, and concrete curb replacements will have been completed. Unfortunately we were unable to complete the top lift of asphalt on the roadway before winter weather set in," said communications officer Lisa Fraser in an email to Metro.

The work, including the final asphalt paving, is now expected to be completed next May or early June.

BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

Construction on a stretch of Henderson Highway now will be completed next May or June. BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO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A snowplow clears Osborne Street last year. BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

Deficit may harm city credit: Coun.

$14.9 million. Report says bulk of deficit due to last brutal winter

BERNICE PONTANILLA
bernice.pontanilla@metronews.ca

A member of the city's new finance committee wondered Tuesday how a projected deficit of $14.9 million may affect Winnipeg's credit rating.

Coun. Mike Pagtakhan (Point Douglas), appointed as deputy mayor and to the finance committee, said that's his main concern on the eve of the committee's first meeting on Thursday.

The committee will receive a financial status report and forecast to the end of September. In the report, officials state that the city may have to tap its financial stabilization reserve fund — unless it can make up the shortfall by the end of 2014.

The previous council already dipped into this reserve, which has now fallen below eight per cent — meaning the new council will have to hold a special vote before any cash can be taken.

The report also states that the bulk of the city's deficit is due to last winter's heavy snowfall and extreme cold. The snow- and ice-removal budget saw an over expenditure of $28.4 million.

"We did have the worst winter on record, so there is a good explanation for (the deficit)," said Pagtakhan, "but we want to make sure that we are in keeping with our policy."

$4,167,000 emergency

The city's new finance committee will also hear details on how costly the frozen pipes emergency was:

- **$1,698,000:** salaries and benefits
- **$658,000:** materials and supplies
- **$919,000:** external rentals
- **$403,000:** contracted services
- **$350,000:** variable treatment costs
- **$139,000:** miscellaneous

Six individuals chosen to ensure fairness of NDP leadership contest

Manitoba's New Democratic Party has chosen a six-member committee to lay out ground rules for a leadership race that could topple Premier Greg Selinger.

Party president Ellen Olfert says the committee will work toward a fair and democratic process for the leadership contest that is to take place in March at the NDP's annual convention.

The committee members include: Olfert; Kevin Rebeck, president of the Manitoba Federation of Labour; three members of the party executive and a former party secretary.

Selinger has faced an open revolt from some senior caucus and party members but has said he will stay on and has suggested his opponents can run against him.

He has pointed to a little-used section of the NDP's constitution, which says the party leader can be challenged by opponents at any annual convention.

The committee is expected to decide how long a leadership race will last and may weigh in on whether Selinger should step down as premier temporarily during the contest. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Premier Greg Selinger
SHANE GIBSON/METRO

One suspect arrested

Man robbed, stabbed while waiting for bus

Police have made an arrest after a man waiting for a bus was robbed and assaulted on Monday night.

The 50-year-old victim was near the corner of Balmoral and Cumberland around 8:15 p.m. when a man with a knife demanded he hand over a suitcase. When the victim refused, the man stabbed him. A second perpetrator ran over and again demanded the suitcase. This time the victim relented.

Officers responding to an apartment on William Avenue over an unrelated matter later that evening came across the stolen suitcase and one of the suspects. METRO

Westwood

Student robbed at knifepoint over lunch break

Police are looking for a suspect after a 13-year-old boy was robbed while walking to school in Westwood over the lunch hour Monday.

The victim was in a back lane of the 400 block of Westwood Drive around 12:20 p.m. when a man with a knife approached and demanded money. The victim handed over a small amount of cash, and the robber fled.

The victim continued on to school where he told staff of the robbery, who called police.

The suspect is white, in his 20s, roughly five-foot-10, with an athletic build, brown eyes, dark hair and stubble. METRO

Five warrants

Police track down suspect wanted for 14 months

It's taken over a year, but police have finally caught a man wanted on a number of warrants.

Members of the Street Crimes Unit had been searching for the suspect since September of last year on the strength of outstanding warrants ranging from forcible confinement and robbery to court breaches.

On Monday, members of the Tactical Support Team arrested the man at a hotel in the 1800 block of Pembina Highway.

Bradley Kenneth Jones, 25, of Winnipeg was processed on five outstanding warrants for his arrest. METRO

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U.S. Senate rejects bill to fast-track Keystone XL

Defeated by one vote.
Bill was designed to circumvent White House's environmental review process

Quoted

"What is everyone upset about? We've been building pipelines for a long, long time — and we need to build this one."

Sen. Mary Landrieu, a Lousiana Democrat and a co-sponsor of the Keystone XL bill

The U.S. Senate has rejected a proposal to fast-track the approval of the controversial Keystone XL pipeline.

Pipeline supporters needed 60 votes to win approval for the bill, but it went down to defeat by a margin of 59-41.

Had it passed, U.S. President Barack Obama was widely expected to veto the bill, which was designed to short-circuit the White House's own environmental review process.

Last week, Obama suggested that Keystone XL would have a negligible positive impact on the U.S. economy, an assertion denied by both TransCanada Corp., the company behind it, and the Canadian government.

On Tuesday, Natural Resources Minister Greg Rickford insisted otherwise as he expressed disappointment in the result of the vote.

"This project will create jobs, long term economic prosperity, energy security and environmental stewardship on both sides of our shared border," he said in a statement.

Further, Rickford continued, the State Department has already concluded that the project would not by itself result in increased output from the Alberta oilsands, and would replace "insecure sources" of crude with "a secure, reliable supply from Canada, North Dakota and Montana."

TransCanada Corp. has also long insisted the project would create tens of thousands of U.S. construction jobs.

Greenpeace Canada, long an opponent of the project, cheered the Senate for rejecting the proposal on environmental grounds.

Keystone XL "would enable the production of over 24 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per year while threatening communities and their water supplies," said spokesman Mike Hudema.

As a result of the vote, the question of whether to approve the project is not likely to resurface until the new year, which is when the pro-Keystone Republicans will take over control of the Senate, wrested from the Democrats in midterm elections earlier this month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Meanwhile in Burnaby, B.C.

RCMP officers patrol a protest camp on Tuesday in Burnaby, B.C. Protesters have been attempting to prevent energy giant Kinder Morgan from conducting survey work on Burnaby Mountain for the proposed expansion of the Trans Mountain pipeline. Despite a court-ordered injunction that took effect Monday, many protesters have refused to leave the camp. No arrests had been made as of press time.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Residential school lawsuits delayed

Former Newfoundland and Labrador residential school students suing for an apology and compensation listened Tuesday to procedural wrangling that could delay their case for months.

Judge Robert Stack of the provincial Supreme Court said he'll likely rule Monday on a federal application that derailed what was supposed to be the first day of a two-month trial.

Lawyer Jonathan Tarlton, representing the federal government in five certified class-action lawsuits, raised concerns that pre-trial filings weren't complete. Lawyers for the province and former operators of the schools blamed a procedural misunderstanding as they told Stack they weren't ready.

At issue was the extent to which these third- and fourth-party defendants, named by Ottawa and the province respectively, were expected to take part in the first of a proposed two-phase trial.

The first part was to examine whether Ottawa breached any fiduciary or trust relationship with aboriginal students. The second phase would assess potential negligence involving all parties.

Lawyer Kirk Baert, representing the plaintiffs, said his legal team had taken pains to keep the already seven-year-old litigation focused on the federal government alone. His concern, he told Stack, was that additional defendants would raise complex and protracted issues.

Lawyers for the federal government deny it was responsible for schools located in St. Anthony, Cartwright, North West River, Nain and Makkovik that opened before the province joined Confederation in 1949. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Apology, damages sought

There are more than 1,000 Métis, Inuit and Innu plaintiffs seeking an apology and damages for alleged sexual and physical abuse along with cultural losses.

- Many were devastated to find they were excluded from Prime Minister Stephen Harper's apology in 2008 and a related compensation package for rampant abuse at Indian residential schools.

Canadian jets bomb an ISIL warehouse

Northern Iraq. The attack was carried out in the overnight hours Monday to limit 'collateral damage'

Canadian fighter jets and other coalition aircraft have effectively flattened a warehouse in northern Iraq as part of a major nighttime operation against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).

The attack took place near Mosul, the embattled country's second-largest city, and was announced Tuesday in a news release from Defence Minister Rob Nicholson's office.

Four CF-18s dropped a total of eight precision bombs on the building, which was being used to train enemy fighters and to build roadside bombs and booby traps for use against Iraqi forces, the news release said.

All coalition aircraft returned safely without incident. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada at war

It is Canada's third bombing mission since CF-18 fighter jets began combat operations out of undisclosed bases in Kuwait in October.

- Officials insisted there were no civilian casualties, but would not speculate about whether enemy fighters were killed.

A Royal Canadian Air Force CF-18 Hornet breaks away after refueling with a KC-135 Stratotanker assigned to the 340th Expeditionary Air Refueling squadron, in late October over Iraq. HO-U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dutch princess calls for more aid

A Dutch princess lauded by the Harper government for her advocacy against the forced marriage of young girls is calling on Canada and its wealthy partner countries to boost overall aid spending.

Princess Mabel van Oranje of the Netherlands praised the government's so-called child bride initiative, saying it has made Canada a world leader on an international development issue that has few champions on the world stage.

On Tuesday, Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird bestowed the government's John Diefenbaker human rights award on van Oranje's organization, Girls Not Brides, an umbrella group of 400 non-governmental organizations operating in 60 countries.

Baird also announced another $10 million to the initiative on top of a $20-million commitment earlier this year.

For her part, van Oranje was effusive in her praise of Baird's initiative, calling it "smart development."

But in an interview with The Canadian Press, van Oranje said it was crucial for all countries to boost overall aid spending to the UN development spending target of 0.7 per cent of GDP. Canada's current spending level is below 0.3 per cent. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"I think it's wise for rich countries to spend 0.7 per cent of their GDP on international development.... The consequences of not doing that — we feel them all."

Princess Mabel van Oranje of the Netherlands

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Experts wonder if Ghomeshi can make a comeback

Out of sight. The fired CBC Radio host hasn't been heard from since his Facebook posts on Oct. 26 and 30

Bill Clinton did it. Eliot Spitzer did it. What about Jian Ghomeshi? Will the former CBC Radio host be able restore his reputation and salvage his career?

"I would never say it's impossible to rehabilitate your reputation but this is very close," says Dan Robertson, a partner at Toronto-based Indent Communications. "I think (his future) is ruined."

In the 3-1/2 weeks since the CBC fired him and allegations first emerged, Ghomeshi has been dropped by both his crisis management company and publicity firm. His agent, publisher and former bandmates have also distanced themselves, as have prominent members of Canada's arts community, many of whom appeared on his show, Q.

To date, nine women and one man have told media they were choked, hit or sexually harassed by Ghomeshi. Three women have gone to Toronto police, who are now investigating.

The gravity of the accusations, and the number of alleged victims, make the Ghomeshi scandal unlike many other scandals that ensnare public figures, says Robertson.

Experts say the best approach to handling a crisis means confessing, apologizing and then disappearing until it blows over. And whatever tactics Ghomeshi uses to convey that — for instance, seeking rehabilitative help — will have to be part of a bigger, long-term strategy that could take years.

American crisis management consultant Eric Dezenhall thinks a comeback is possible "but far into the future and probably on a much smaller platform."

"We are living in a time when the world is more forgiving of dark behaviour, but not immediately," emails the CEO of Dezenhall Resources in Washington, D.C., and author of Glass Jaw: A Manifesto for Defending Fragile Reputations in an Age of Instant Scandal. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Million-dollar-baby: Canadian mom gets medical bill

Jennifer Huculak of Humboldt, Sask., is pictured with baby Reece. The 30-year-old mother, who gave birth at a Hawaii hospital last December, is warning others to get informed on travel insurance: She's now facing a medical bill of more than $900,000. To read the full story, go to metronews.ca. COURTESY JENNIFER HUCULAK

Refugee benefits

Cuts hidden in budget bill: Critics

The Conservative government's proposed changes to who can qualify for welfare amount to an effort to pressure provinces into adopting anti-refugee policies, say critics who are picking a new fight over benefits for refugee claimants. Nearly 160 groups are calling on the government to reverse measures, buried in the latest budget bill, which open the door to refugee claimants being denied welfare. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Magnotta trial

Psychiatrist can't tell if duo exists

A psychiatrist who assessed Luka Rocco Magnotta said he talked of two people in his life — a woman named Rebecca and an American called Manny. But Dr. Joel Watts told the murder trial it remains unclear if either exists. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Human rights committee

UN Security Council urged to refer North Korea's record to ICC

The world's boldest effort yet to hold North Korea and leader Kim Jong Un accountable for alleged crimes against humanity moved forward Tuesday at the United Nations, where a Pyongyang envoy threatened further nuclear tests. The UN General Assembly's human rights committee approved a resolution that urges the Security Council to refer to the country's harsh human rights situation to the International Criminal Court (ICC). The non-binding resolution now goes to the General Assembly for a vote in the coming weeks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Japan

PM is seeking a renewed mandate with snap election

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe called a snap election for December and put off a sales tax hike planned for next year, seeking a renewed mandate for his all-or-nothing policies to end two decades of economic stagnation. Despite those policies, the Japanese economy slipped into a recession last quarter after a sales tax increase in April crushed consumer and business spending. That forced Abe to delay the second hike planned for October 2015 until April 2017. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Missouri

U.S. Supreme Court asked to halt inmate's execution

Attorneys for Missouri inmate Leon Taylor asked the U.S. Supreme Court to halt his execution on Tuesday, citing several concerns that led to his death sentence.

Taylor, 56, is scheduled to die early Wednesday for killing gas station attendant Robert Newton in suburban Kansas City in 1994, in front of Newton's 8-year-old stepdaughter. If put to death, Taylor would be the ninth man to be executed in Missouri this year and the 11th since November 2013. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canadian wounded, at least 5 killed in Israeli synagogue

Hitting close to home. Israel's government vows retaliation in act of violence that killed four rabbis, policeman

A Canadian who moved to Israel to pursue his devout faith 30 years ago was left fighting for his life after an attack at the synagogue where he prayed three times a day, his sister said Tuesday.

Shelley Rothman-Benhaim said her brother Howie Chaim Rotman suffered multiple stab wounds when two Palestinian cousins stormed into his local temple wielding meat cleavers, knives and a gun.

The attackers killed four rabbis before being slain themselves in a police shootout. A police officer later died of his injuries.

The attack, the deadliest in the country since 2008, left the Israeli government vowing retaliation and drew the ire of world leaders including Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

Rothman-Benhaim said that her brother underwent surgeries on his head, eyes and arms Tuesday and is currently in a medically induced coma in Jerusalem. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israel-Palestinian conflict

A recent chronology of Israeli-Palestinian hostilities.

- **Oct. 22:** A 3-month-old Israeli-American girl is killed after a Palestinian drove into a train station.
- **Nov. 8:** Israeli police shoot and kill an Arab-Israeli protester in northern Israel.
- **Nov. 10:** In separate attacks in Tel Aviv and the West Bank, Palestinians stab and kill two Israelis.
- **Nov. 16:** Police say an Israeli is stabbed in the back by an Arab attacker and is wounded.
- **Nov. 18:** Two Palestinians storm a Jerusalem synagogue, killing at least five and wounding six.

Mourners attend the funerals of Aryeh Kupinsky, Cary William Levine and Avraham Goldberg, three of the four people killed in a shooting attack in a synagogue in Jerusalem on Tuesday. Two Palestinian cousins armed with meat cleavers and a gun stormed a Jerusalem synagogue during morning prayers Tuesday, killing five people in the city's bloodiest attack in years. Police killed the attackers in a shootout. ARIEL SCHALIT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"Canada condemns the barbaric act of terror against a synagogue in West Jerusalem. Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Israel."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper, in a tweet

"(The assault was an) act of pure terror and senseless brutality and violence."

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry on the deaths of five Israelis in Jerusalem Tuesday. In addition to the deceased, several others were also injured following the attack on a synagogue by two armed Palestinians.

Iran urged to prove peaceful nuclear intentions

Police guard in front of Palais Coburg where closed-door nuclear talks with Iran took place in Vienna, Austria on Tuesday. The talks brought Iran to the negotiating table with the U.S., Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany, but the sides remain far apart on Iran's nuclear program. RONALD ZAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry urged Iran to prove its intentions are peaceful as nuclear talks between Tehran and six world powers reconvened Tuesday ahead of a Nov. 24 deadline. Iran struck a more combative tone, warning that the other side's "greediness" could scuttle the negotiations.

With less than a week before the deadline, both sides are eager to avoid extending the talks — a move that would be met by substantial congressional opposition in Washington and hardliners in Tehran. But they may have no choice.

At a meeting with British Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond, Kerry said the U.S. hopes "we can get there, but we can't make any prediction." He challenged Tehran to "work with us in all possible efforts to prove to the world the (Iranian nuclear) program is peaceful."

Hammond said Iran needed to show "more flexibility."

But Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said it was up to the West to muster "the political will to reach a solution," warning talks could fail due to the other side's "greediness" — meaning demands Iran is unwilling to accept.

The talks group Iran around the negotiating table with the U.S., Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany. The six want Iran to curb uranium enrichment and other nuclear projects that could be used for making atomic arms. In exchange, they offer an end to sanctions on the Islamic Republic. Tehran insists it does not want such weapons and is resisting both strict constraints and demands that they be in place for a decade or more. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Is Egypt's government violating constitution?

Human Rights. Opposition group says it has recorded a dozen constitutional violations

An Egyptian rights group said Tuesday the government has repeatedly violated the country's new constitution, calling it a crime that must be addressed immediately.

The Arabic Network for Human Rights Information said it recorded violations of more than a dozen articles in the constitution adopted with an overwhelming majority in January and hailed by authorities and experts as "the constitution of freedoms." The violations were mostly in the freedoms and rights section of the charter.

The government argues that the constitution, an amended version of an earlier Islamist-backed one, enshrined rights and freedoms and provided women and minorities equal treatment. When the government's human rights record came under attack by many European countries and the United States during a U.N. review earlier this month, the government responded that its constitution was a "victory for human rights and freedoms."

But critics say authorities are not implementing the constitution and have yet to reform laws to conform.

In its report, ANHRI said the violations included holding detainees in unknown locations for extended periods, as well as torturing detainees while denying them the right to report abuse.

Authorities have rounded up thousands in a security crackdown following the overthrow of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi last year. The group said a woman was denied the opportunity to apply for a job as a teacher because her name, Rabaah, was similar to the name of a former protest area. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Egypt

President Abdel-Fattah El-Sissi violates the constitution, the group said, by giving himself the right to deport foreign defendants who are still on trial or have been sentenced, if he deems it in the country's best interest. This violates the independence of the judiciary, the group said.

- Authorities have rounded up thousands in a security crackdown following the overthrow of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi last year.
- In its report, ANHRI said the violations included holding detainees in unknown locations for extended periods, as well as torturing detainees while denying them the right to report abuse.

Barricades in occupied area of Hong Kong come down

Workers start clearing away barricades at an occupied area outside government headquarters in Hong Kong Tuesday. The removal comes after a Hong Kong court granted a restraining order against the protesters last week requiring them to clear the area in front of a tower in the central part of Hong Kong as well a separate order against a second protest site Mong Kok brought by taxi and minibus operators. KIN CHEUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pope's raffle proceeds to charity

Pope Francis is raffling off dozens of gifts he's been given during his short papacy, including a new Fiat 4x4, some bikes and a fancy coffee maker, with the proceeds going to charity.

The Vatican City State administration this week put up posters around the Vatican advertising the 10 euro ($13) per ticket raffle. Tickets are on sale at the Vatican post office, pharmacy and other venues open to the public. Winners will be announced Jan. 8.

Francis, known for his simplicity, has overhauled the Vatican's finances to make them more efficient and to devote more money to charity.

The raffle is part of that effort, making sure gifts for which Francis has no use don't just gather dust in storage but are used to help the needy.

Meanwhile, Pope Francis will meet with autistic children and their families in a bid to help raise awareness and end the stigma and isolation of people living with those challenges.

The Saturday audience will cap an international conference on autism being hosted this week by the Vatican's health care office.

The aim of the conference is to help break the isolation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Betting on a bull run takes on different meaning in Haiti

Men gather to watch bulls fight in Leogane, Haiti, earlier this month. The obscure practice has existed in several rural hamlets for at least a century. It fits into a gambling culture in Haiti that includes fighting cocks and "borlettes," gaudily-painted outlets that play on New York State Lottery numbers. A casual pastime for some rural men, it's a serious business for others looking to pay their children's school fees or even buy a car. For people living on less than $2 a day, prize pots that can grow to 36,000 Haitian gourdes ($775) is appealing. DIEU NALIO CHERY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Liberians hold weddings again as Ebola fears wane

Public awareness campaigns working. Number of new cases has dropped precipitously in the capital Monrovia

Robert Kollie and his fiancée postponed their October wedding as Ebola ravaged Liberia's capital. The government had warned people to avoid large gatherings. Weddings are full of kissing and hugging and just one unknowingly sick person could infect dozens.

A month later, even as Ebola continues to ravage parts of West Africa, the situation has improved in Monrovia and a scenic park in the eastern suburbs is once again busy on weekends with photographers shooting bridal parties. The Kollies were among them.

"When Ebola was spreading and at the same time my wedding was being prepared, I asked myself, 'What will I tell God if I die in this crisis and don't get married?'" Yongor Kollie, 31, said, flanked by her bridesmaids. "And so today, I am a happy woman."

Happy, but still cautious.

"Even before coming here, we had to wash our hands,'' said the 33-year-old groom, referring to the ubiquitous plastic buckets with water and bleach that Liberians have come to accept as a daily part of life.

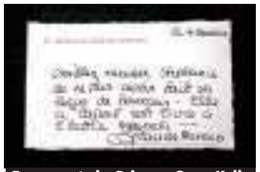
Liberia has been hardest hit of the West African countries battling Ebola outbreaks, with more than 2,800 people killed this year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"The feeling I am leaving this park with this afternoon is that Liberia is returning to normalcy and things are getting better."

Jordan Jackson, 36, who married his bride on Sunday after being with her for a decade.



Excuse note by Princess Grace Kelly of Monaco, to her daughter's teacher after the girl came up short in class, reading: "Please excuse Stephanie for not having done her French lesson. She left her book at school, Wednesday. Grace de Monaco." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Letters by famous women go on sale

An unprecedented collection of 1,500 documents from some of history's greatest women is being auctioned in Paris, including everything from Catherine the Great's imperious letter shunning her lover, to Brigitte Bardot's plea to cancel the release of a song that ended up being banned in several countries owing to its sexual content.

The documents, which range from the profound to the banal, also include ones from Napoleon's long-suffering wife Josephine, and a note to a teacher from Grace Kelly. The extraordinary two-day sale started Tuesday.

Catherine — the first of King Henry VIII's six wives — in a 1529 letter intended to reach the pope, asks for Henry's planned annulment to be blocked and warns that Henry will try to split from Rome. It sold Tuesday for 68,750 euros (about $97,400).

The famously amorous Catherine II of Russia, who was linked to the coup that killed her husband Peter III, is seen in an 1762 letter shunning her lover Stanislas Auguste Poniatowski. It sold Tuesday for 17,500 euros (about $25,000).

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Yet another woman attacked by mob in Kenya over dress

Nairobi. About 100 are arrested in connection with the incident; the deputy president says Kenya is 'not a primitive society'

A mob of Kenyan men attacked and stripped a woman claiming she was inappropriately dressed just hours after nearly 1,000 people marched through downtown Nairobi to protest the rising wave of such assaults.

Police responded by arresting nearly 100 people, police said. Nairobi police criminal investigations chief Nicholas Kamwende said Tuesday that about 80 of the men arrested were conductors on mini-buses, or matatus, where a lot of the harassment has taken place.

Kenyan women protest Monday for the right to wear the clothes they want. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The woman attacked Monday evening was taken to a hospital with injuries.

The mobs of men have attacked women who were wearing mini-skirts or any other outfit they consider too revealing, including tight-fitting or sleeveless clothes.

Deputy President William Ruto has weighed in on the issue by saying Kenya is not a primitive society and that the attacking men must be arrested.

Conservative groups have countered that women must dress appropriately.

The women's march was organized after a phone video made the rounds showing a mob of men surround a woman and rip away her clothes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Winter whacks Buffalo area

Riding snowmobiles along Rt. 391 in Boston, N.Y., Tuesday. Parts of New York measured the season's first big snowfall in feet on Tuesday as a metre of lake-effect snow hit the Buffalo area, forcing closure of a long stretch of the state highway. THE BUFFALO NEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Indonesia

Police told to stop testing recruits for virginity

Indonesia must stop subjecting female police recruits to physical tests in an effort to determine whether they are virgins, a leading human rights group said Tuesday, describing the practice as degrading and discriminatory.

Human Rights Watch said in a report that such tests were a long standing practice in Indonesia, where patriarchal attitudes and practices in security forces are common.

Citing medical experts, the rights group said the physical tests are useless in determining virginity.

Indonesian police spokesman Maj. Gen. Ronny Sompie urged people not to "respond negatively" to the tests, saying they were aimed at ensuring applicants were free from sexually transmitted diseases.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Probe of Ferguson police could lead to changes

As local authorities in Missouri near the end of their investigation in the Ferguson shooting, a broader federal civil rights review could hold a greater potential to refashion the police department and bring long-lasting change.

While a St. Louis County grand jury investigates the Aug. 9 shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown, the justice department is investigating, too. More than two months into its probe of the Ferguson department's practices, the civil rights inquiry is focusing on use-of-force, stops and searches and possible patterns of discrimination in the ways that officers in the predominantly white department interact with the majority-black community.

Results are likely months away and may do little quickly to mollify the community. But whether or not officer Darren Wilson ends up facing state or federal criminal prosecution, the civil rights investigation will continue. In similar cases, broad federal investigations of police departments have dictated changes in how officers carry out many tasks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two Americans sought over mailing body parts

Thai police issued arrest warrants Tuesday for two Americans who attempted to mail a preserved baby's head, foot and other human body parts to the United States, saying the objects were stolen from a Thai medical museum.

The bizarre case has quickly gained international attention, with Thai police asking Cambodian authorities to help locate the men, who travelled to the neighbouring country on Sunday, and the FBI helping with the investigation in the United States.

Police questioned Ryan McPherson, 31, and his friend, Daniel Tanner, 33, over the weekend in Bangkok, but released them and allowed them to travel to Cambodia. New elements then emerged after their departure, prompting the arrest warrants to be issued on charges of theft, possession of stolen items and falsely declaring items on shipping documents.

"Our evidence indicates that they either stole the body parts, or they bought them from other people," said police Maj. Gen. Sombat Milintachinda.

Photos of the two closely resemble men by the same names and ages who were producers over a decade ago of a series featuring homeless people brawling and doing stunts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada's biggest earners now a little less wealthy: Report

Statistics Canada.
The 1%'s share of the country's overall income fell, while the 99%'s income shares stabilized or rose

Canada's mega-rich lost ground to the other 99 per cent, say newly released figures from Statistics Canada.

The top one per cent of Canadian earners saw their share of the country's overall income tumble to a six-year low in 2012, the agency said in a report Tuesday.

The wealthiest Canadians, the data show, held 10.3 per cent of total earnings, a drop from a peak of 12.1 per cent in 2006.

Go West, young Canadians

For young Canadians looking to land a good job, the West is where it's at, according to a new report released by the Fraser Institute on Tuesday.

- The right-leaning think-tank said Alberta and Saskatchewan offer the best opportunities for the 25-to-34 set.
- Ontario and Quebec have prospects that are just as dim as the Atlantic provinces, from which there's long been a westward exodus of workers.

To qualify for the exclusive club, the report said an individual had to earn a minimum of $215,700 in 2012, a feat achieved by 261,365 people who filed taxes that year.

Women represented 21.3 per cent of the ranks of Canada's super-wealthy in 2012 — nearly double their proportion of 11.4 per cent in 1982.

"Although Canadian men represent the vast majority of the top income groups, the number and share of women in (the) top one per cent reached a 31-year high in 2012," said the Statistics Canada report, which also elaborated on how much the gap narrowed overall.

"The six-year period between 2006 and 2012 also marked, for the first time since 1982, a prolonged period in which the total income shares of the bottom 90 per cent, 95 per cent and 99 per cent of Canadian tax filers rose or stabilized." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Don't panic, but olive oil prices may rise

Augusto Spagnoli, oil producer, picks an olive as he walks in his grove during an interview last week with The Associated Press, in Nerola, 50 kilometres from Rome. If your favourite bottle of Mediterranean olive oil starts costing more, blame unseasonable European weather — and tiny insects. Italy's 2014 olive harvest was declared by both producers and experts as the worst in history, due to adverse climatic conditions which helped the olive fly proliferate, thus destroying the olives before they could be harvested. ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
88.50¢
(-0.03¢)

TSX
14,972.97 (+90.47)

OIL
$74.61 US (-$1.03)

GOLD
$1,197.10 US (+$13.60)

Natural gas: $4.27 US (-$0.03)
Dow Jones: 17,687.82 (+40.07)

Fresh start

Nokia aims for comeback with a new tablet

Just months after selling its ailing handsets business to Microsoft, Nokia is planning to go back into the consumer market with a new tablet. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Small drones fall under current FAA rules in U.S.

The U.S. government has the power to hold drone operators accountable when they operate the remote-control aircraft recklessly, a federal safety board ruled Tuesday in a setback to small drone operators chafing under Federal Aviation Administration restrictions.

The National Transportation Safety Board, which hears appeals of Federal Aviation Administration enforcement actions, ruled that small drones are a type of aircraft and fall under existing FAA rules.

The FAA had fined Raphael Pirker, an aerial photographer, $10,000 for operating his Ritewing Zephyr in a reckless manner on the University of Virginia campus in 2011. Pirker allegedly flew the drone, which weighed less than five pounds, at "extremely low" altitudes, including under a pedestrian bridge and directly at a person, causing the individual to duck out of the way. He had been hired to make photos and videos of the campus.

Pirker appealed the fine, saying his aircraft was effectively no different than a model aircraft and therefore not subject to regulations that apply to manned aircraft. An NTSB administrative law judge sided with him in March, saying the FAA hasn't issued any regulations specifically for drones and therefore can't determine their use.

The FAA appealed the decision to the four-member safety board, which said Tuesday that the definition of an aircraft is very broad.

No Wild West

More than a million small drone aircraft have been sold worldwide in the past few years, and a growing number of them are turning up in U.S. skies near airports and airliners, posing a risk of collision.

- Reports of drone sightings near other planes, helicopters and airfields are reaching the government almost daily — a sharp increase from just two years ago when such reports were still unusual.
- "It's a huge win for the FAA, and signals it's not going to be the Wild West for drones, but a careful, orderly, safe introduction of unmanned aircraft systems into the national airspace system," said Kenneth Quinn, a former FAA general counsel.

"An 'aircraft' is any 'device' 'used for flight in the air.' This definition includes any aircraft, manned or unmanned, large or small," the board said. The board sent the case back to the judge to decide if Pirker's drone was operated recklessly.

The FAA said in a statement that Pirker operated the drone "in a careless or reckless manner" and the fine "should stand."

The decision strengthens the FAA's position as the agency tries to cope with a surge in use of unmanned aircraft, some weighing no more than a few pounds and available for purchase on the Internet and in hobby shops for as little as a few hundred dollars. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The U.S. government has the power to hold drone operators accountable for operating them recklessly. MARK LENNIHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

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HIGH TIME FOR AN UPDATE?

Sex ed. We all suffered through it. But is the program that was taught in schools a decade ago still relevant to kids today? With high-profile sex assault cases in the news, some educators and activists are renewing their call for schools to go beyond the basics and tackle issues of sexual violence, stopping it before it starts. But not everyone is on board with these ideas. Metro's Jessica Smith Cross spoke with people on both sides of the debate.

For

Overhaul urgently needed

What is missing from the current sex-ed curriculum? In Ontario schools, according to some, it's discourse on sexual violence.

Chris Markham is the executive director of the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association, which is asking for sex-ed instructors to talk to kids about sexual consent.

According to Markham, the acceptable standard for consent has evolved in recent years: It is no longer about the absence of a "no," but the presence of an active, enthusiastic "Hell yes."

Markham said that the idea of consent should be taught "as soon as possible," in an age-appropriate way.

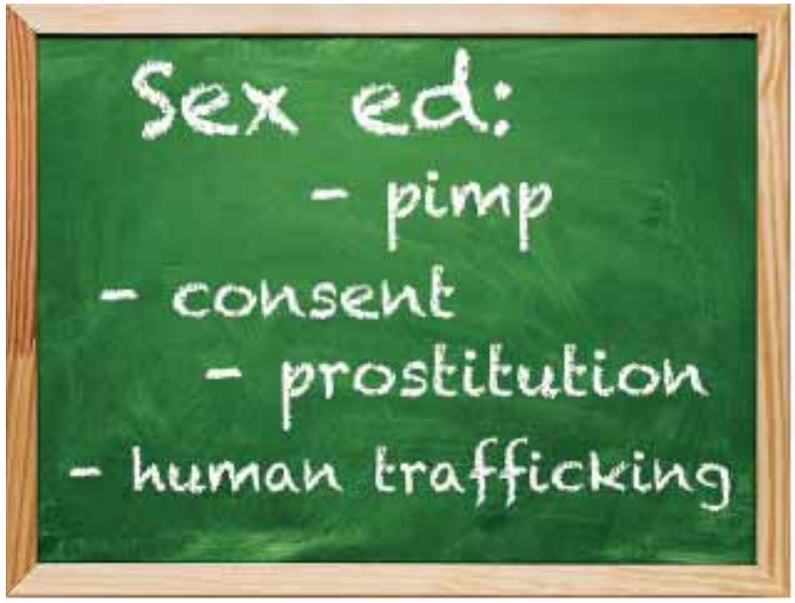
"In Grade 1, part of the reason kids are taught the proper body part names is to help prevent future abuse," he said. "(They're taught) if someone is doing something that isn't comfortable to you, you need to speak to an adult and use the proper terminology when explaining that. That is the beginning of consent."

What students should be taught about consent ought evolve as they mature. It should focus on teaching kids how to make healthy decisions that respect their bodies and feelings, and those of others, Markham said. For example, he noted that the 2010 curriculum states that in Grade 7, students should learn about sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and about engaging in sexual activity only when both partners consent.

Coming at the debate from a different perspective is Mia Biondi, co-ordinator of the PROS (Providing Resources, Offering Support) program at All Saints Community Centre-Church in Toronto. She argues the curriculum revamp is an opportunity to educate students about human trafficking and the sex trade. The idea is to teach students how to recognize a pimp or recruiter, because those who prey on young people typically present themselves as a friend, she said.

That would include teaching students lessons like, "Just because someone is giving gifts or attention, it doesn't mean they're doing it from a good place," Biondi said.

The human trafficking curriculum should be for Grade 7 students, and done in a sensitive, age-appropriate way, said Biondi.



Attempted overhaul

The Ontario government has pledged to consult with parents on updates to sex-ed curriculum and implement a new program in September 2015. The last attempt in 2010 to update the decade-old curriculum was halted due to opposition from some parents and religious groups.

- Among the proposals was teaching third-graders about same-sex marriage, sixth-graders about masturbation, and seventh-graders about oral sex and STIs.
- Ontario's sex-ed program hasn't been changed since 1998, before the widespread use of cellphones and social media among kids. and teens.

Manitoba Curriculum

Most parents in Canada can opt their children out of in-class sex-ed classes, but they have to teach the material at home. Here's a condensed look at how kids are taught about sex in Manitoba:

- **Kindergarten.** Identify body parts and discuss the right to privacy.
- **Grade 5.** Describe human reproduction, discuss facts about HIV/AIDS.
- **Grade 7.** Address the emotional and physical changes associated with puberty.
- **Grade 9.** Discuss the role of media and society in sexuality as well as behaviours that can contribute to contracting STIs.
- **Grade 10.** Identify methods of contraception and discuss pregnancy.

Against

Sex-ed curriculum goes too far already

Some people were vocally opposed to a proposal to modernize Ontario curriculum in 2010, and they continue to be so today.

Nancy Winslow, a mother and grandmother from Beamsville, Ont., said she believes parents, not teachers, should teach kids about sex. She said the curriculum is not age-appropriate, nor appropriate in any way.

Winslow said students should not be taught sexual consent.

Too much, too soon?

"Children are being exposed to far more than their psyches can handle." **Nancy Winslow,** mother, grandmother

"I don't think sex needs to be discussed at school, certainly not in the young grades. Children are being exposed to far more than their psyches can handle. It takes away their innocence and it takes away their childhood," she said.

Winslow said she believes education about human trafficking should be reserved for high school students, who would be ready to learn about it.

"Schools should be teaching self-respect, self-discipline and respect for others," she said.

Progressive Conservative MPP Monte McNaughton asked Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne pointed questions in the legislature Tuesday about the government's plan to consult parents on the sex-ed curriculum, and accused the government of breaking its promise to meaningfully consult with parents on what they want their children to learn about sex.

"One carefully selected hand-picked parent per school represents 4,000 parents out of millions of Ontario parents. That's barely one per cent of parents," he said.

He called the process "covert," "a farce," "smoke and mirrors," and an insult to parents.

"When will you reveal the contents of the new Liberal sex education curriculum so all parents in the province can see for themselves what you have planned for their children?"

McNaughton said the premier was "afraid" to tell parents what the curriculum will include.

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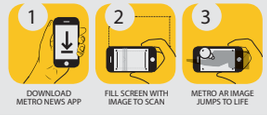

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Joey McIntyre happy to help turn CBS into an old boy-band network

Television. Sitcom star is second New Kids on the Block member to join prime-time lineup

NED EHRBAR
Metro in Hollywood

Joey McIntyre, second from left, with the cast of The McCarthys. CTV

With Joey McIntyre on The McCarthys and Donnie Wahlberg holding down the fort on Blue Bloods, CBS is now at 20-per-cent New Kids on the Block saturation. And it's a strategy that appears to be working. "We're on different nights, so that's good. We can get one more half-hour out of (the fans)," McIntyre jokes. Seriously, though, those Blockheads — fans of the grown-up boy band — are showing their support.

"They're very excited about the show. I think of course they're going to be inclined to like something that I'm on or one of us is on, but they're a good audience, they're a smart audience," he says. "We always have a good 25 or 30 of them at the taping."

McIntyre stars as one of the titular McCarthys, a loud and boisterous Boston family that includes twins Gerard (McIntyre) and Sean (Jimmy Dunn) along with little brother Ronny (Tyler Ritter) and sister Jackie (Kelen Coleman), all under the leadership of parents Arthur (Jack McGee) and Marjorie (Laurie Metcalf).

This isn't the first time McIntyre has put his Boston roots to work for an acting gig. McIntyre popped up as one of Melissa McCarthy's brothers in last year's The Heat, though he insists the two families are very different — despite the accent.

"There is a certain aspect to it, a certain niche that Boston brings — an Irish Boston kind of chip on your shoulder, working class mentality, very opinionated," he says. "There's a certain thing that I think Boston people have, a point of view. And certainly that was the kickoff of where the McCarthys came from. That family in the Heat is similar, but without the F-word. I mean, the McCarthys would be very, very insulted if you compared us to that family. We think we're much better than that."

If there's any downside to his career as a New Kid, it's that the terrible timing when it comes to the average age of his fans means he's never really gotten to really indulge in groupie culture.

"Back then they were young girls, teenagers, going crazy and figuring all sorts of stuff out," he explains. "Back then they were too young and now they're all beautiful women — and I'm married and happy. Couldn't enjoy you then, and can't enjoy you now."

The McCarthys

The McCarthys airs Thursdays at 9:30 p.m. ET on CTV.

Music

A New Kid's take on boy band revival

So what does Joey McIntyre think of the popularity of One Direction — and the current boy-band resurgence?

Let's face it, given the success New Kids on the Block has found on the touring and cruise ship circuit, he can't be that mad. And he's not.

"It comes in cycles, you know what I mean? You talk about The Jackson 5 and The Osmonds, then New Kids and then Backstreet Boys and *NSYNC. And then we take a break," McIntyre says.

"But One Direction doesn't come around every day, you know what I mean? And that's just a massive thing. I'm happy for them. Seems like they're making good pop music and they're good guys. I think they should dance a little bit more, but other than that, they seem like good guys."

NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

Tamar Braxton of reality show Tamar & Vince. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Television. WE offers viewers 'swag bags' to watch now

The WE television network is offering prizes to people who watch, as long as they watch promptly.

The network said it is starting an experiment this week where people who prove they watched its Thursday night episode of Tamar & Vince either live or within three days will be eligible to win a bag of show memorabilia and, ultimately, a home entertainment system.

The incentive, believed to be the first in the TV industry, indicates the value of timely viewing. Advertising rates are based on watching programs either live or within three days on digital video recorders or on demand services.

Marc Juris, WE TV president, also wants people to watch live to encourage social media conversations around the network's programming. WE is heavy on reality programming like Kendra on Top and Braxton Family Values.

"We wanted to create a level of urgency to watch the shows," Juris said.

The network will flash a code word during a commercial break on Tamar & Vince. Viewers who enter the word on the network's website within three days will be eligible for one of 10 "swag bags" given out each week and for the home theatre grand prize.

Quoted

"We wanted to create a level of urgency to watch the shows."

Marc Juris, WE TV president

If the experiment is deemed successful, it may spread to other programs, he said.

WE is averaging 696,000 live viewers for original prime-time programming this year, an average that increases to 943,000 if viewing within three days is added. Stretch it out for a full week, and another five per cent usually joins in, according to the Nielsen company.

Under Juris, WE — which stood for Women's Entertainment — is trying to broaden its outlook. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Neil Young ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

The Starbucks stop here for Neil Young

Neil Young, rock's resident cranky uncle, is boycotting Starbucks over a lawsuit challenging Vermont's new genetically modified food labelling law. "I used to line up and get my latte every day, but yesterday was my last one," Young writes on his website. "If we can generate enough attention, we can push Starbucks to withdraw its support for the lawsuit and then pressure other companies to do the same."

A spokesman for Starbucks, however, claims Young is off-base. "The petition claiming that Starbucks is part of this litigation is completely false and we have asked the petitioners to correct their description of our position," a company statement reads.

Is it weird that I lost a little respect for Young when he admitted he drank lattes from Starbucks everyday? I mean, that just doesn't sit right.

Benedict Cumberbatch and Sophie Hunter

Benedict and Sophie finally step out together

Now that Benedict Cumberbatch and Sophie Hunter have finished quietly announcing their engagement without his devoted female fans calling for her death, it's safe to take a victory lap in public.

Cumberbatch and Hunter made their first shared red carpet appearance this week at the New York premiere of his new film, The Imitation Game.

The Word

Willow and Jaden bring the crazy

NED EHRBAR
Metro in Hollywood

Will and Jada Pinkett Smith are apparently ridiculously indulgent parents, and the Times is on it! Their teenage offspring, Jaden and Willow Smith, sat down with the New York Times' T Magazine to talk about their music, creativity in general, energies, philosophy — really, all sorts of things that reinforce why giving teens a platform to pontificate is a bad idea. But it's too late, because they were given the platform. So let's all take a moment to bask in the pretension:

On creativity

Jaden: "Honestly, we're just trying to make music that we think is cool. We don't think a lot of the music out there is that cool. So we make our own music. We don't have any song that we like to listen to on the P.C.H. by any other artist, you know?"

Willow: "That's what I do with novels. There're no novels that I like to read so I write my own novels, and then I read them again, and it's the best thing."

On time and relativity

Jaden: "It's proven that how time moves for you depends on where you are in the universe. It's relative to beings and other places. But on the level of being here on Earth, if you are aware in a moment, one second can last a year."

Willow: "I mean, time for me, I can make it go slow or fast, however I please, and that's how I know it doesn't exist."

On education

Jaden: "Kids who go to normal school are so teenagery, so angsty ... You never learn anything in school. Think about how many car accidents happen every day. Driver's ed? What's up? I still haven't been to driver's ed because if everybody I know has been in an accident, I can't see how driver's ed is really helping them out."

Willow: "I went to school for one year. It was the best experience, but the worst experience. The best experience because I was, like, 'Oh, now I know why kids are so depressed.' But it was the worst experience because I was depressed."

On life goals

Jaden: "I have a goal to be just the most craziest person of all time. And when I say craziest, I mean, like, I want to do like Olympic-level things. I want to be the most durable person on the planet."

Willow: "I think by the time we're 30 or 20, we're going to be climbing as many mountains as we can possibly climb."

Hannah Bagshawe and Eddie Redmayne

Redmayne to wrap up year with winter wedding

Of course, Benedict Cumberbatch isn't the only young Internet-friendly British actor ready to tie the knot.

The Theory of Everything star Eddie Redmayne, in fact, will be a married man before the year is out. "It's coming up fast, before Christmas," he tells me of his impending nuptials with fiancée Hannah Bagshawe. Of course, he's been a bit busy, what with the ongoing Awards Season campaign for his portrayal of Stephen Hawking.

"It's been a lot of me on FaceTime going, 'Yes, whatever you want, that looks nice,'" he admits.

TV Land leaves Hot in Cleveland out in the cold

Sorry, Betty White fans.

TV Land has officially given the axe to its first original series, Hot in Cleveland, which just started its sixth season. Seriously, did you know it had been running for six seasons? Weird. Anyway, the show's stars were understandably bummed about the news. Valerie Bertinelli, for example, posted this quote by Shel Silverstein: "There are no happy endings. Endings are the saddest part. So just give me a happy middle and a very happy start."

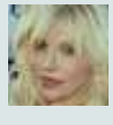
Betty White

As of press time, Betty White hadn't tweeted since this season's premiere two weeks ago. Which is maybe part of the problem.

Twitter

@GarryShandling
Charles Manson to marry. Another score for EHarmony.

@mindykaling
If you like a pie that is a "blank cream pie", you are trash. Apple, cherry, pecan, peach, rhubarb, these are the acceptable pies.



@Courtney
Ok ok @EdwardNorton I admit it . You were a good boyfriend, I was a terrible girlfriend. But I miss your funny ass. Love ya dude xx

How-to

Get all the right newsletters

1. Sign up for the eblasts from the sun-vacation people all year round. Many have great deals if you book (and pay) in advance, and these often crop up out of season. Ditto for the cruise ships.
2. Stay connected with your favourite hotel chains, which always broadcast deals for certain cities or time frames.
3. Did you really enjoy your last tour? Sign up for the operator's newsletter, because many have rewards for loyalty.
4. Tune into things like Travel Zoo, Expedia, Air Canada Vacations and other discount news briefings.
5. Just unsubscribe from the ones you're deleting without reading to ensure inbox sanity.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Trend

Interactive vacation cuisine

The Rosewood Mayakoba resort near Playa del Carmen has launched La Ceiba Garden & Kitchen, a food concept that weaves insider culinary experiences into your vacation. Cooking demos, tasting sessions and foraging trips bring you closer to the source of all the Mexican deliciousness. Guests can visit places like a bee farm and a family-run tortilla factory. Gastro-tourism at its most authentic. Go to rosewoodhotels.com/en/mayakoba-riviera-maya.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

New

Princess christens a new Love Boat

Love Boat cast members were on hand in Fort Lauderdale recently to launch the new Regal Princess from Princess Cruises, the cruise line that served as the backdrop for the show. As well, 25 of the show's guest stars were along for the ride, including Florence Henderson, Loni Anderson and Charo. The new ship features a giant atrium, a glass-bottomed sea walkway and the brand's signature, high-definition outdoor theatre.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Airbnb to launch travel magazine

Short-term vacation rental service Airbnb has announced plans to release a quarterly travel magazine that will cover everything from culture and art to food and style as seen through the lens of three different cities. The inaugural edition of the magazine, called Pineapple, will be distributed for free to global hosts, with a limited number of copies also for sale in specialty bookstores, at newsstands and in boutiques across North America and Europe. The initial print run will be 18,000 copies. Stories will include insider tips, personal anecdotes and essays, and will be written by experienced Airbnb hosts and travellers. The featured cities in the first issue are London, Seoul (pictured here) and San Francisco. Copies will be distributed at the annual Airbnb Open summit held in San Francisco for hosts November 21-23.

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Globetrotting in the virtual world

Exotic gaming.
Video game designers are setting their adventures in more far-flung locales to satisfy gamer wanderlust

At the beginning of Call of Duty: Advanced Warfare, the recently released instalment in Activision's blockbuster military shooter franchise, the player is dumped from the sky in a drop pod onto an urban battlefield, smashing into skyscrapers and landing in a futuristic, war-torn rendition of a city that's rarely depicted in video games: Seoul, South Korea.

It's a Wizard of Oz moment for the Call of Duty series.

The interactive medium has long built digital playgrounds based on real-world locales. However, recent technological leaps, as well as an endless string of games set in ubiquitous locations like New York and Los Angeles, have motivated developers of some of the year's biggest and most anticipated games to boldly go where they haven't before.

"I think designers are on the lookout for compelling places you want to be," said Advanced Warfare senior level designer Colin Munson. "It's fantasy fulfilment. That's probably why we always see New York and Los Angeles. We made it a concerted effort at the beginning of development to broaden our levels. Seoul was one of the first that came to mind."

Munson found that the city's sprawling shopping district seamlessly served as a shooting gallery, and Seoul's wide streets — normally a no-no in first-person shooter level design — made for the perfect spot to unleash a swarm of enemy drones 50 years in the future.

The pervasiveness of imagery and records online has made it both easier and more difficult for designers. The creators of the present-day open-world shoot-'em-up Far Cry 4, scheduled for release Nov. 18, found a disconnect between what they glimpsed on their screens and what they experienced in person when visiting the country that inspired their sequel.

A team of Far Cry 4 designers travelled to Nepal while fashioning Kyrat, a fictional nation in the Himalayas entrenched in a bullet-riddled revolt. The Ubisoft game's vistas mirror Nepal's lush forests that give way to snowy mountains. The more difficult balance to strike was creating a realm that felt fantastically realistic but wouldn't offend folks in the real world.

"We're inspired by the locations and cultures, but we don't directly reference it," said Far Cry 4 narrative director Mark Thompson.

"We did work early on to create a unique mythology and religion for Kyrat, borrowing from the themes and symbolism of Buddhism and Hinduism. At the end of the day, we're making a video game. It's about escapism and fun."

Apparently, there's still nothing like the real thing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Far Cry 4's fictional nation of Kyrat in the Himalayas. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Far Cry 4 designers travelled to Nepal to get a sense of the area. ISTOCK

Bucket list

Tasmania

The remote Australian island of Tasmania is perfect for outdoor enthusiasts, as famous for unspoiled natural environment as it is for the Tasmanian Devil (pictured). Almost half of the island is parkland and designated heritage land, with five regions and two islands. The capital of Hobart is your jumping off point for cool excursions, including a picnic visit to Mount Wellington for one of the best views in the world. The animal kingdom is both rich and fascinating; this is the home of platypuses, penguins, wallabies, seals, eagles and the above-mentioned snarling, carnivorous marsupial, to name just a few. Visit discovertasmania.com.au.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

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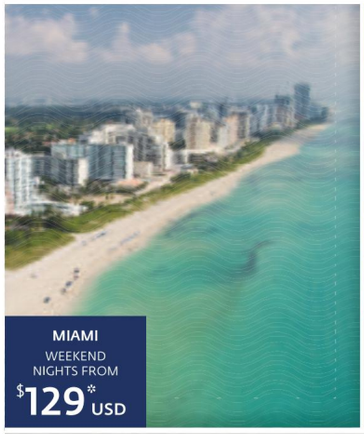

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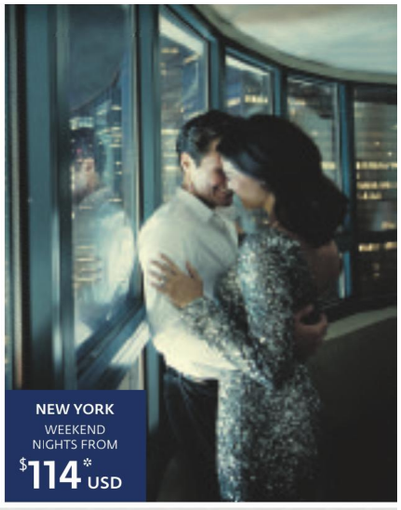

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Las Vegas shows off its softer side

VAWN HIMMELSBACH
For Metro

Fremont Street, a five-block entertainment district, still maintains the original charm of vintage Vegas with some of the city's most iconic casinos.

Downtown Container Park in Las Vegas attracts artisans, and features terrific restaurants, shops and galleries. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Today's Las Vegas is all about "aspirational luxury," offering up a high-roller experience even to those who like to save their pennies. With new boutique hotels, celebrity chef restaurants and all-day clubs, Vegas continues to evolve at a pace unlike any other city.

While many visitors enjoy the spoils of Las Vegas — gambling, entertainment and culinary delights — there is also a softer side to Vegas.

"Many properties are non-gaming and non-smoking with nature integrated into their designs, offering a more serene option to the bright lights and excitement that so many others crave," said Naomi Strasser, spokesperson for the Las Vegas Convention & Visitor's Authority.

The new Delano Las Vegas, for example, which replaces The Hotel at Mandalay Bay, is a non-gaming "lifestyle" hotel, which offers an oasis of serenity for those who want a break from the ringing of slot machines.

And the emergence of downtown Vegas as a destination unto itself is the embodiment of "everything old is new again," Strasser said. Fremont Street, a five-block entertainment district, still maintains the original charm of vintage Vegas with some of the city's most iconic casinos.

On and off the Strip, new hotels are offering something a little different from the previously popular "themed" hotels.

The Cromwell, which recently opened its doors, is considered the Strip's first boutique hotel with just 188 rooms, offering a throwback Parisian vibe. It's also home to celebrity chef Giada De Laurentiis' first restaurant. Called Giada, it features the chef's signature Italian cuisine with California influences.

And Drai's Beach Club, located on The Cromwell's rooftop, does double-duty as a beach club during the day and nightclub in the evening (with late-night pool parties) on its 65,000-square-foot pool deck.

The Cromwell is part of a new outdoor shopping, dining and entertainment district called LINQ, located smack dab in the centre of the Strip.

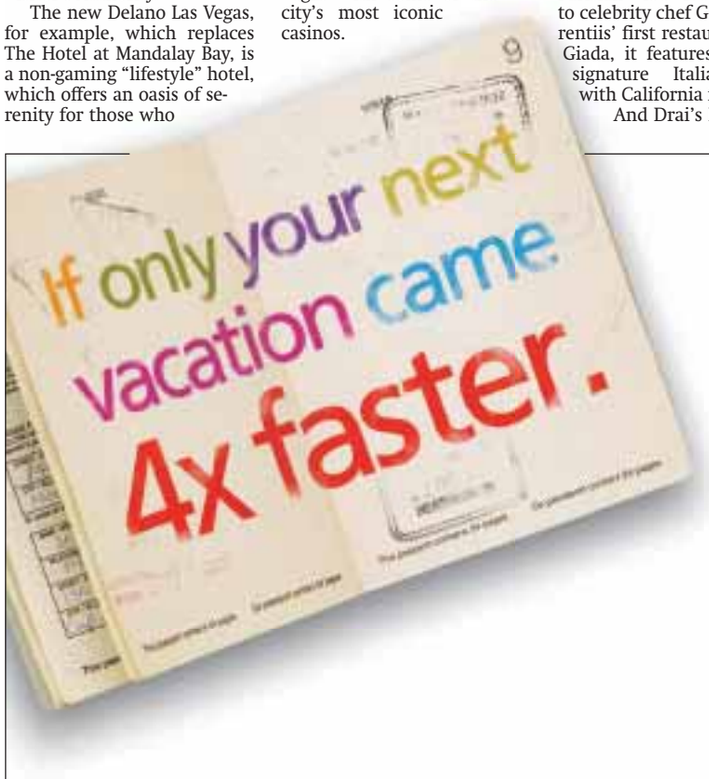
The Philippe Starck-designed SLS Hotel & Casino, which opened for business in October, is located further down the Strip (past Wynn and Encore), but not quite downtown.

At SLS, you have the best of both worlds, Strasser said. It's on the heels of the Strip, but a stone's throw from the vintage-meets-hipster elements of downtown Vegas.

"Culturally, Las Vegas has evolved immensely with new, hip destinations like the Downtown Container Park, which attracts artisans, has terrific restaurants, shops and galleries, and is a neat counterpoint to the excitement of the Strip," Strasser said.

Theme vacations

- **For the ultimate guys trip:** Drive a Ferrari on the Las Vegas Speedway with Dream Racing, or learn to be a "top gun" at Sky Combat Ace.
- **For families:** Visit sawfish, rays and sea turtles at the Shark Reef Aquarium at Mandalay Bay, or get up close and personal with dolphins at the Secret Garden in The Mirage.
- **Off the Strip:** Tour Red Rock Canyon with Pink Jeep Tours, or get a bird's-eye view of the Grand Canyon with Maverick Helicopters.
- **For history buffs:** Head to the Neon Boneyard, dedicated to preserving the city's iconic neon signs, or visit the Mob Museum.
- **For romance:** Clink champagne glasses at the Fizz Champagne Bar at FIZZ, a champagne lounge and bar designed by Sir Elton John and his partner, David Furnish.



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When a vacation is all you never wanted

Career. Basking in the sun for a short while doesn't necessarily lead to relaxation

Need a vacation to recover from that vacation? You're not alone, say experts from the University of Ottawa.

Typical vacations do not decrease long-term work-related stress levels, according to Jane O'Reilly, a human resources professor. In other words, an employee goes away, stress goes down. He comes back, stress goes up.

What's more, if vacation experiences are "resource-consuming," they can leave someone even feeling more drained than before, said another human resources professor, Laurent Lapierre.

Experts say that with a little planning, though, these pitfalls can be avoided. Here are ways to get more rest, have more fun, and avoid wasting that precious summer reprieve.

Slow and steady

- Human resources professor Jane O'Reilly suggests keeping a vacation plan simple, so there aren't any unexpected, stressful hassles along the way. These drain resources and can make a holiday feel like more trouble than it's worth.

Pitfalls of being productive

When people experience work-related stress during a vacation, it can be because they are "output-oriented" individuals, according to management professor Michael Miles.

"They worry about getting this done and getting that done," he said.

Some people just need to recognize that this need to be productive is an aspect of their personality, he said.

"The one thing that I found for myself — I fall into that category — is that I make goals for my vacation itself. So for example, one of my goals for this vacation is to clean out my garage, which sounds really crazy, but it's really relaxing. It's enjoyable because it's a goal and I can check it off and feel like I've achieved something."

Working on personal projects and checking items off a "bucket list" can both be fulfilling alternatives to work, according to O'Reilly.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

You've found the five-star hotel, but your brain's still in business mode. Instead of working on that laptop, work on engaging in a relaxing activity. CONTRIBUTED

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LAUREN MARINIGH
TalentEgg.ca

Use more visuals

Don't fill a presentation with text-heavy slides. Convey your message using photos and a few keywords for structure — leave the rest to your delivery.

- Nobody engages with a presentation slide full of words (and it's not very visually appealing, either).
- Presenters often use too much text when they aren't confident in the presentation they are giving and need the slides as speaking references. This is where practising will help.

Tip: Sustain the flow of your presentation by embedding videos directly in each slide. Having to exit the presentation for any reason puts you at risk of losing momentum.

Leaving an audience in awe is not the easiest thing to accomplish. Practice matters, and as you gradually get the hang of managing different audiences, you will soon begin to realize that it gets easier over time.

Before you know it, you'll be able to present on just about anything with ease, and with minimal butterflies in your tummy. Here are some tips that are key to any professional presentation.

Practice

Practice really does make perfect, so go over your presentation as much as possible. With lots of practice, the content of your presentation will become second nature and you won't require cue cards or notes.

Want feedback? Rehearse in front of friends, family or co-workers so you can see how you do under (a little) pressure. Not ready for that? Try a mirror.

Tip: Keep in mind that there may be interruptions or questions throughout your presentation. This is why you need to be comfortable with your material — don't treat it like a recitation.

Keep it straight and to the point

Present your information in a clear and concise way. It is easy to lose someone's attention if you take too long to get to the key points across. Ask yourself: What are the key pieces of information you need to communicate? Is there anything unnecessary you can omit? Timing your presentation can help you identify areas that are over-long or too short — these sections may be due for a review.

Tip: Deliver your presentation to someone who knows little about your subject matter. How do they react?

Consider personal presentation

Your appearance and body language is crucial. Keep your arms from crossing in front of you, don't fidget, and move through your space while presenting (walking across the stage, for example). These small details can help keep the audience engaged, and make your presentation more than a static talking head behind a podium with cue cards.

Tip: Make sure to pay attention to how you dress. Proper attire makes a great impression and can boost your self-confidence.

Create a call to action

A good presentation includes a clear next step for your audience. This is usually a type of action (connecting, engaging, purchasing), or at least underscores the identity of the person or organization who organized the presentation.

It's a good strategy to have a handout or takeaway item like a brochure, document of quick tips or even just a business card. This item will underscore your presentation and promote the call to action you've developed.

Tip: Make your leave-behinds visually appealing and in line with the branding of your presentation. This item is going to need to support a strong connection.

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If you're mistaken and you know it, what to do?

Career. Show your employer you can handle a slip-up with maturity and professionalism

RIANA TOPAN
TalentEgg.ca

Everyone makes errors, but the way that you deal with one in the workplace can paint a clear picture of your professional attitude. Here's how to make the best of a messy situation:

Take responsibility
This first step may seem obvious, but it can be hard to do when things actually go wrong. Even though taking ownership of a mistake may be the last thing you feel like doing, it's the only way that you can approach the situation like a responsible adult.

Admit your mistake to those who need to know about it (your boss, co-workers, etc.) as soon as possible. Explain what happened and what went wrong so that they know that you aren't trying to hide from what you did.

You should also tell your employer how sorry you are for your error. It's best to keep your apology brief (unless you messed up something really big) because a big apology could come off as insincere. You should make it clear you're sorry for what you did and for the consequences of your actions.

Be honest
Don't try to keep things hidden. Be clear about exactly what happened and your role in the situation. If others were involved, it's okay to say that.

Just be careful to make sure it doesn't sound like you're trying to shift the blame for what happened to someone else. Explain things in neutral terms as much as possible; the more diplomatic you can be, the better.

You should also explain why it happened — for example, if you were rushing to meet a deadline and didn't double-check something, or if you misunderstood the instructions you were given — so that your supervisor can understand how things played out.

More often than not, your employer will be understanding and appreciate that you're being upfront and taking responsibility for your actions.

Fix it (if you can)
Not every problem can be solved, but if there is a way to make the situation better it's up to you to do what you can to make it happen.

Maybe your organization has to issue a formal apology to its stakeholders, or your team needs to find a way to make up for lost revenue.

Whatever the situation, trying to resolve it will likely mean extra work for you and others, so be ready and willing to do whatever you can to fix what went wrong and be aware of how the situation will impact those around you.

If a boss, co-worker or friend helps to bail you out, show your appreciation for their assistance and be ready to return the favour in the future. Depending on what lengths they go to, you might want to offer some kind of token or gesture to show them how much you value their support.

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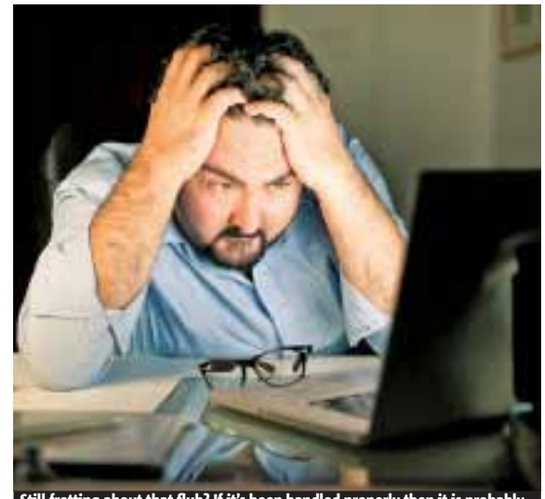
Live and learn

- Learning from your mistakes is the most important step in this process. People are generally pretty forgiving, unless you make the same mistakes over and over again.
- Do whatever you can to prevent history from repeating itself. You may need to establish a new process or create a checklist for yourself, for example, to avoid the same oversight in the future.
- Once you've owned up to your mistake, done what you can to fix it and made an effort to prevent it from happening again, it's time to move on. Making mistakes is simply part of life — don't let the occasional mishap ruin your self-esteem or dampen your belief in your abilities.



Still fretting about that flub? If it's been handled properly then it is probably time to pick yourself up and move forward. ISTOCK

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All about that Bouillabaisse

This recipe makes six to eight servings. EMILY RICHARDS

Soup Week. This French soup, with its under-the-sea combo, continues Metro's week of brothy dishes

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

Enjoying seafood in a bowl is a delicious way to have dinner, and this French classic will entice any seafood lover.

Pick up your favourite wine to enjoy with the dish and make it extra special.

Be sure to look for a variety of seafood at your local grocer or market. If you are unable to purchase the variety in this recipe, simply pick out your favourite combination and create your own take.

The combination of seafood in this light, but rich-tasting broth makes for a beautiful meal to share with friends.

I love serving up this soup with a crusty French bread to sop up any bits of fish and seafood left in the bowl.

If you have any leftovers be sure to take the mussels, clams and crab out of their shells and stir it into the soup.

It's delicious in a thermos or served over rice the next day for a tasty lunch.

Enjoy the slight heat from the rouille in each spoonful with some crusty baguette. Rouille is an oil base sauce usually served in France on top of fish soups to give a wonderful kick of flavour and creaminess to the broth.

FLASH FOOD

From your fridge to your table in about 30 minutes or less

Ingredients

Rouille
- 1 cup (250 ml) bread crumbs
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) roasted red peppers
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) cayenne
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) extra virgin olive oil

Bouillabaisse
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) extra virgin olive oil
- 2 large shallots, diced
- 1 small fennel bulb, trimmed, diced
- 6 cups (1.5 l) vegetable broth
- 1 can (28 oz/796 ml) diced tomatoes
- 2 sprigs fresh thyme
- 2 bay leaves
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) saffron threads
- 12 oz (375 g) mini red potatoes, halved
- 1 lb (454 g) mussels, scrubbed and bearded
- 1 lb (454 g) crab legs
- 1 lb (454 g) small pasta clams
- 8 oz (227 g) monkfish

1. Rouille: Combine bread crumbs, peppers, garlic, cayenne and mayonnaise in blender and buzz until coarse. Drizzle in oil and blend until smooth; set aside.

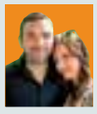
2. Heat oil over medium heat and cook shallots and fennel, stirring often for about 10 minutes or until softened. Stir in broth, tomatoes, thyme, bay leaves and saffron; bring to the boil. Boil gently for 10 minutes.

3. Add potatoes, reduce heat and simmer for 5 minutes. Add mussels, crab legs, clams and monkfish; stir gently to combine into broth. Cover and cook for about 8 minutes or until mussels and clams are open and monkfish is firm.

4. Ladle into shallow soup bowls and dollop each with a spoonful of rouille.

Food around the world

Greece (vegan rating: 7/10)



MEAT AND VEG
meatandvegontheroad.tumblr.com
Photos: Suzi Staheli
Words: Eoin Weldon

Meat, a contented carnivorous writer, documents his and his vegan fiancée Veg's dietary journey as they travel and munch their way across four continents.

Veg: The Greek isle of Zakynthos was one of the highlights of our trip. The warm weather, clear waters and vegan-friendly restaurants endeared the place to us. We ventured out and handpicked Trenta Nove as our destination near the beach town of Tsilvi. With many options, Veg chose two oven-baked beef tomatoes stuffed with rice, served alongside boiled potatoes and a side salad.

Meat: The Greek version of Moussaka is like lasagna without the pasta sheets. Layers of thinly-sliced aubergine and potato are stacked like a cake with a filling of juicy, well-spiced minced meat. It is baked in the oven and has a beautiful soft cheese top, which tastes divine gooey and burnt from the heat. This all came with large chunky fries and a side salad drenched in olive oil which, of course, is the Greek way.

Nothing beats freshly baked goods

1. Heat oven to 400 F. Mist baking sheet with cooking spray.

2. In bowl, whisk flour, cornmeal, salt, baking powder and sugar. Add butter and use 2 knives to work the cubes into the dry mixture until no clump is larger than the size of a pea. Set aside.

3. In bowl whisk together the egg, cream and buttermilk. Add to the dry mixture and stir just until a dough comes together. Turn the dough out onto a floured surface and pat into a 1-inch-thick round. Using a 2-inch biscuit cutter, cut the dough into rounds, gently re-working scraps to cut additional biscuits (do this only once).

4. Arrange the biscuits on the prepared baking sheet, spacing them several inches apart. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes. Let cool slightly before serving.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup cornmeal
- 1 tsp kosher salt
- 1 tbsp baking powder
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, cut in 1/2-inch cubes
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1/2 cup buttermilk

These Cornbread Buttermilk Biscuits serve 12. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jets have jump against New Jersey in return to home ice

NHL. MTS Centre witnesses win over Devils after home team's nine-game-long road trip

On Tuesday

Jets	Devils
3	1

Mathieu Perreault and Mark Scheifele scored two goals in less than two minutes to start the second period and lead the Winnipeg Jets to a 3-1 win over the New Jersey Devils Tuesday night.

Michael Frolik scored in the third period to seal the victory for the Jets (10-7-3).

Perreault got things started with his first of the season as he backhanded one high past Cory Schneider at just 1:34.

Scheifele then flicked in linemate Adam Lowry's rebound at 3:38. He beat Lowry to the puck to claim his third goal of the season.

Martin Havlat narrowed it to 2-1 for New Jersey (8-9-2) to start the third. He poked a loose puck under Jets netminder Michael Hutchinson on the power play.

The Jets went into the game as the third lowest-scoring team in the league. Coach Paul Maurice juggled his lines and it seemed to generate a little more offence on Tuesday.

Both teams looked a little flat in the first period but it was the Jets, with just one night off in the last four, who found energy in the second.

The Devils last played Saturday and were outshot 23-9 by the end of the second. Veteran Jaromir Jagr had the best chance of the period.

At 42, Jagr is currently the oldest player in the NHL and he still leads the Devils in scoring with nine goals and 12 points.

The Jets continued to struggle on the power play, squandering five opportunities Tuesday night.

The Devils got more dangerous as the third period drew to a close, but Hutchinson made some great saves and it was Frolik who scored off another Lowry shot at 16:07. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Devils goaltender Cory Schneider stops a deflection from Jets forward Matt Halischuk during the first period on Monday night at MTS Centre. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Peterson suspended for at least rest of season

Adrian Peterson THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Adrian Peterson's future with the Minnesota Vikings dimmed further Tuesday, with the NFL suspending the star running back without pay for at least the rest of the season.

As his representatives initiated an appeal, Peterson remained at the centre of an escalating dispute between the league and the NFL Players Association over the player discipline process.

Commissioner Roger Goodell told Peterson he will not be considered for reinstatement before April 15 for his violation of the NFL personal conduct policy — the first example of a crackdown on players involved with domestic violence.

The NFLPA quickly announced it would immediately appeal, calling for a neutral arbitrator to handle it, and sharply rebuked the league for what it labelled as inconsistency and unfairness in determining the discipline. The NFL's words were even stronger, with a nearly 1,600-word statement spelling out the conditions for Peterson's path to return to the field and describing the reasons for the stiff punishment.

Goodell pointed to the child's age and the significant physical difference between Peterson and his son.

Goodell also came down on Peterson for showing "no meaningful remorse" for hurting the boy and expressed concern that he "may feel free to engage in similar conduct in the future." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reform agenda

IOC opens door to joint Olympic bids

Breaking from the tradition of awarding the Olympics to only a single host city, the IOC is opening the door to possible wider bids — including bids from an entire country, joint bids from more than one city and even the possibility of events held in more than one country.

The possibility of new types of bids was among the 40 recommendations released Tuesday as part of International Olympic Committee president Thomas Bach's reform agenda, his drive to make the bidding process and the games themselves more attractive and less costly.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Blue Jays confirm signing Martin

The Toronto Blue Jays confirmed the signing of Canadian catcher Russell Martin on Tuesday. The announcement came a day after it was reported that the two sides agreed on a five-year, $82-million US deal. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

LeBron gushes over the Spurs' winning 'blueprint'

LeBron James doesn't believe he has a rivalry with the San Antonio Spurs, despite facing them three times in the NBA Finals.

The Cavs superstar described the defending champions as "the blueprint" to winning titles on Tuesday.

LeBron James GETTY IMAGES

James will face the Spurs on Wednesday night for the first time since he and the Miami Heat lost last season's finals in five games. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL. Brodeur holding out hope of signing a contract

Martin Brodeur isn't burning up his phone trying to find a place to play. While he lets his agent do that leg work, the legendary goaltender keeps working out and skating as much as he can in the hopes that his NHL career isn't over.

More than a month into the season, Brodeur is 42 and without a job. But he hasn't given up.

"I don't want to cheat myself on any opportunities," Brodeur said Monday night before the Hockey Hall of Fame induction ceremony. "I still have the fire, I'd like to play again, but it's understandable with the quality of goaltending around the league. The youth of the quality of goaltending is pretty tremendous. We'll see if my experience is valued to an organization or not."

Brodeur is the all-time leader in wins (688) and shutouts (124) and won three Stanley Cups with the New Jersey Devils (1995, 2000 and 2003). He posted save percentages of .901 the past two seasons, split time with Cory Schneider his final year in New Jersey and left as a free agent over the summer.

Martin Brodeur speaks on the red carpet of the Hockey Hall of Fame induction ceremony on Monday in Toronto. GETTY IMAGES

No team signed Brodeur when free agency opened, and when he was asked how close he got to a contract, the Montreal native quipped: "Depends what you mean close. I'm still here, so it wasn't that close."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Money transfers

FIFA files criminal complaint

The latest twist in FIFA's World Cup bid corruption case has landed on the desk of Switzerland's attorney general.

FIFA filed a "criminal complaint" against unnamed individuals on Tuesday, calling on Swiss federal prosecutors to investigate money transfers connected to the 2018 and 2022 World Cup bidding contests that were won by Russia and Qatar. The move comes five days after FIFA had welcomed a "degree of closure" on the case.

"In particular there seem to be grounds for suspicion that, in isolated cases, international transfers of assets with connections to Switzerland took place, which merit examination by the criminal prosecution authorities," FIFA said in a statement.

The significance of the dramatic-sounding request by FIFA president Sepp Blatter for a criminal investigation was unclear. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Foes face off in friendly

Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo shakes hands with Argentina superstar Lionel Messi ahead of Tuesday's friendly at Old Trafford in Manchester. Ronaldo and Messi had left the pitch long before Raphael Guerreiro's stoppage-time header gave Portugal a 1-0 win. Scan the image with your Metro News app for a roundup of international friendlies from around the world Tuesday. PAUL ELLIS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

John White of the Edmonton Eskimos makes a cut with the ball in the CFL Western semifinal against the Saskatchewan Roughriders at Commonwealth Stadium on Sunday in Edmonton. The Riders couldn't repeat their Grey Cup win this season after the 18-10 loss in Edmonton. BRENT JUST/GETTY IMAGES

Riders lick their semifinal wounds

Sombre mood.
Changes coming as repeat Grey Cup does not go to Sakatchewan

The atmosphere in the Saskatchewan Roughriders locker-room Tuesday was in sharp contrast to the jubilant scene at the end of last season.

A year ago, the Roughriders celebrated winning the Grey Cup at home for the first time in franchise history. This time they were cleaning out their lockers in a sombre mood two days after an 18-10 loss to the Edmonton Eskimos in the West Division semifinal.

With the Roughriders falling short of their goal to repeat as Grey Cup champions, the team is promising changes will be made this off-season. That means some of the players will see their time with the Roughriders end in disappointment.

"It sucks. I don't know how else to say it," said offensive lineman Brendon LaBatte. "Even after last year you knew there were going to be changes. You knew you were seeing guys for the last time unless you end up playing against them in the future. And for some guys, this is the end of the road. It sucks to end it on this note, too."

New toolbox?

"There are some pieces that will be retooled. Some guys will be let go ... because maybe they don't fit the plan going forward."

Head coach Corey Chamblin assessing his roster for next season.

As was the case a year ago, the Riders face an off-season that is sure to be loaded with difficult decisions when it comes to coaching staff changes and player personnel. The Riders have 27 players eligible to file for free agency on Feb. 15, and several on that list are marquee talents, though a handful of those players are 30 years or older.

"Some of these guys have different mindsets from what they want for the 2015 season. There are some things that we can't give them," head coach Corey Chamblin told the media.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Brown gets week's honours

When things were falling apart for the B.C. Lions in the CFL East Division semifinal, defensive back Jerald Brown made some Montreal Alouettes team history.

Just after the Lions had something positive happen, a Tim Brown kickoff return to the Montreal 12-yard line, Jerald Brown scooped up a fumble and ran a team-record 103 yards for a touchdown to put the Alouettes at the half-century mark in what would be a 50-17 victory.

That, and the stellar play of a Montreal defence that held B.C. to 102 passing yards, earned Brown CFL defensive player of the week honours on Tuesday.

He'll try to keep up the strong defensive play when the Alouettes face the Tiger-Cats in Hamilton in the East final on Sunday.

"That's cool, but it's about our team," said Brown. "I accept it and I appreciate it, but it's just another week for me.

"We've got to go out and win. That's all we're focused on. It's not about individuality. We've got to get it done as a team." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jerald Brown
GETTY IMAGES FILE

2015 Buick Enclave

- **Type.** Four-door, 7- or 8-passenger full-size SUV
- **Engines.** 3.6-litre V6 with direct injection (288 hp)
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed automatic
- **Price.** $47,760 base, $55,260 as-tested

Market position

These full-sized people-movers make up a small segment of the market, but they're popular with drivers who need extra seats but don't want a minivan. Although it shares its engine and platform with other GM models, there's enough of a difference in its appointments to give it the unique look and feel that Buick buyers want.

Points

- The three rows of seating can make this a viable alternative to a minivan for many families.
- The priciest of the three vehicles built off this platform, it also offers the most luxury features.
- The available all-wheel-drive automatically distributes power to improve traction in slippery conditions.

The third row of seats is both easy to access and comfortable.

Interesting features

Heated steering wheel, rear park assist, tri-zone automatic climate control, remote starter, and available power-folding mirrors, heated and cooled seats, lane-departure warning and forward-collision alert.

Smooth, suave and powerful

PHOTOS: JIL MCINTOSH

Review. Buick Enclave has room for eight, but looks and drives much better than a minivan

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

No one was quite sure what would happen when Buick entered the SUV market with its all-new Enclave in 2008, but it turned out to be a best-seller for the company, which now also offers a compact sport-ute called the Encore.

The Enclave, based on a model that's also sold as the Chevrolet Traverse and GMC Acadia, has undergone several refinements since that first model. The 2015 version is mostly unchanged from 2014, with just the new availability of a heated wood-and-leather steering wheel.

In front-wheel drive, it comes in a single trim level starting at $47,760. I drove it in the all-wheel-drive configuration, which starts at $50,760.

My Premium tester started at $55,260 and had a few added options, including a twin-pane sunroof and a trailer tow package, which includes heavy-duty cooling and raises the Enclave's towing ability from 2,000 to 4,500 lb.

Power comes from a smooth-running 3.6-litre V6, mated to a six-speed automatic transmission.

The ride is composed and luxurious, and the Enclave handles well without feeling heavy.

Although impressive at first glance, the interior's many plastic bits look cheap.

What really impresses is its surprisingly tight turning circle: I've driven small sedans that can't turn around as easily as this big ute does. That's a real bonus when you're trying to park it in tight quarters.

The Enclave includes three rows of seats and, unlike some of its competitors, it's not only easy to get into the third row, but there's also good legroom back there and the seats are comfortable. Both the second and third rows fold flat to provide more cargo space.

If there's a downside to this vehicle, it's the interior. Although it looks spectacular at first glance, with double-stitched accents and wood trim, there's far too much hard, pebbly plastic in the lower portions of the dash and doors — making it seem much cheaper.

My power-operated liftgate was also a little creakier than I expected.

Beyond those complaints, though, the Enclave is a well-equipped, comfortable, and powerful way to get a lot of passengers wherever they need to go.

Compare

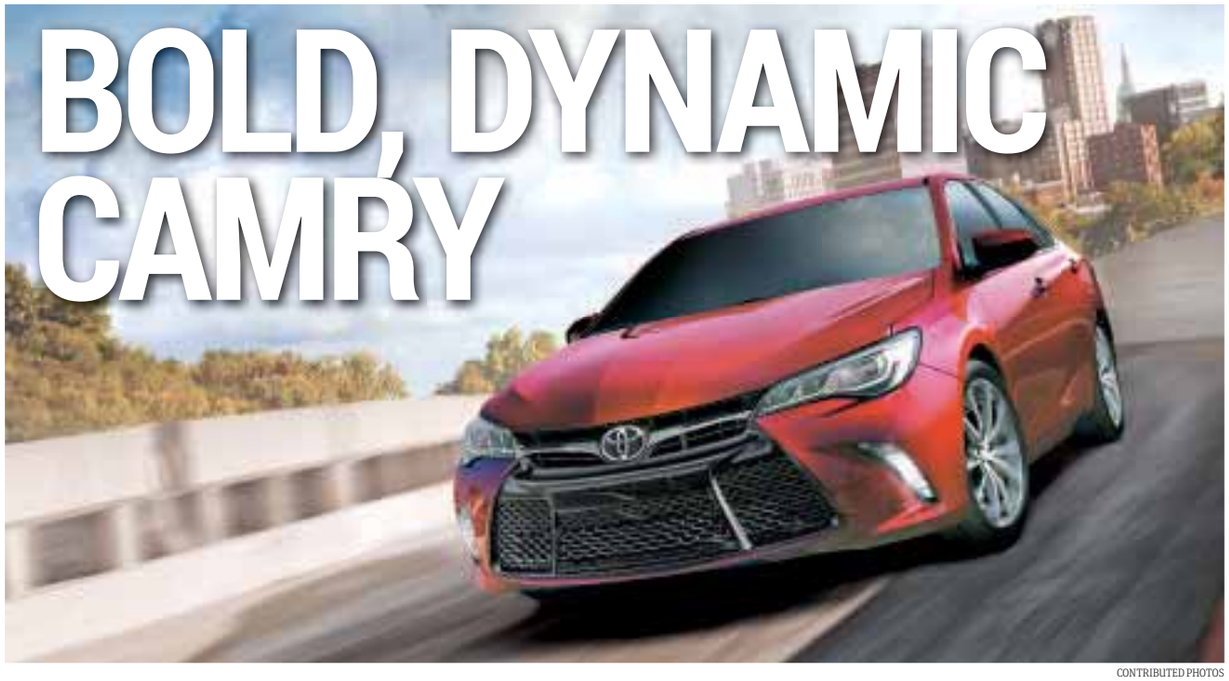
1 Chevrolet Traverse
Base price: $33,355
The Enclave's sibling offers the same engine and seating capacity, but at a much lower price with fewer features.

2 Hyundai Santa Fe XL
Base price:$31,099
Elegantly finished inside, the XL can be ordered with six captain's chairs.

3 Lincoln MKT
Base price: $50,660
Built in Ontario, the MKT has a continually variable suspension for a smooth and comfortable ride.

DRIVE

BOLD, DYNAMIC CAMRY



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

A bestseller now becomes even better with the redesigned 2015 Toyota Camry. Starting with the reliability and fuel efficiency already built into every Camry, Toyota has redesigned the 2015 Camry to create a car that is premium in looks and feel, but is still value-packed for Canadian buyers.

The Camry was redesigned from the ground up. It's now unmistakable from any angle, with a slightly longer body and a wider track that improves the car's stability and gives it a dynamic, athletic stance.

A sporty new XSE trim line joins the LE, XLE and SE, giving buyers even more choice in the extremely competitive midsize sedan segment.

The Camry's aggressive new front includes a wider, more prominent trapezoid grille that further punctuates the car's low, lean look, flanked by sharp slashes that incorporate the LED running lights. The new XSE goes a step further with its unique mesh grille and fascia, announcing its sportier suspension and driving characteristics.

On all models, the grille arches back to the sleek new lights. At the rear, wraparound tail lamps sweep into an attractive garnish below the trunk lid's integrated lip spoiler.

But the Camry's beauty isn't just skin deep. The chassis and body structure have additional spot welds for enhanced rigidity, which improves ride quality and cornering ability. The retuned suspension makes the new Camry far more responsive, but while it responds quicker to steering input, it never becomes a chore to drive. This improved steering feel inspires confidence and makes the Camry a true driver's car.

The XSE's suspension includes sportier shock absorbers and firmer bushings, higher-rate coil springs, and unique steering tuning that make it a standout, along with its trim-specific 18-inch wheels, heated sport seats, premium navigation system, and satellite radio.

The Camry lineup offers a choice of two engines. The 2.4-litre four-cylinder generates 178 horsepower and does a great job of getting the Camry quickly up to highway speeds, while it's smooth and efficient on the daily commute. For those who want even more, there's an available 3.5-litre V6 in the XLE and XSE that delivers 268 horsepower. Both engines mate to a smoothly-shifting six-speed automatic transmission.

The Camry is new inside as well, with new levels of refinement, roomier feel, premium materials, more soft-touch surfaces, and the quietest cabin yet. Seat materials range from premium cloth to genuine leather and Ultrasuede, with seats and door panels accented with high-contrast stitching.

On the SE, XLE and XSE models, the instrument cluster features a new 4.2-inch TFT (thin film transistor) colour screen that co-ordinates with the multimedia system to display audio and navigation information, communication, and vehicle warnings without being a distraction to the driver. The screen is nestled between three-dimensional Optitron gauges that not only look high-tech, but are easy to read.

The reconfigured centre console offers increased capacity and a convenient power source inside the storage box. On the centre stack, a new covered bin opens with a touch and includes an available wireless charging system for select smartphones.

As always, safety is a priority, and the Camry now has improved brake feel, along with 10 standard airbags including driver and passenger knee airbags, enhanced stability control, brake assist, and Smart Stop Technology.

All in all, the new 2015 Camry offers a better driving experience, more premium features, unmistakable sleek styling, and advanced technology features, while still maintaining Toyota's legendary commitment to safety and value.

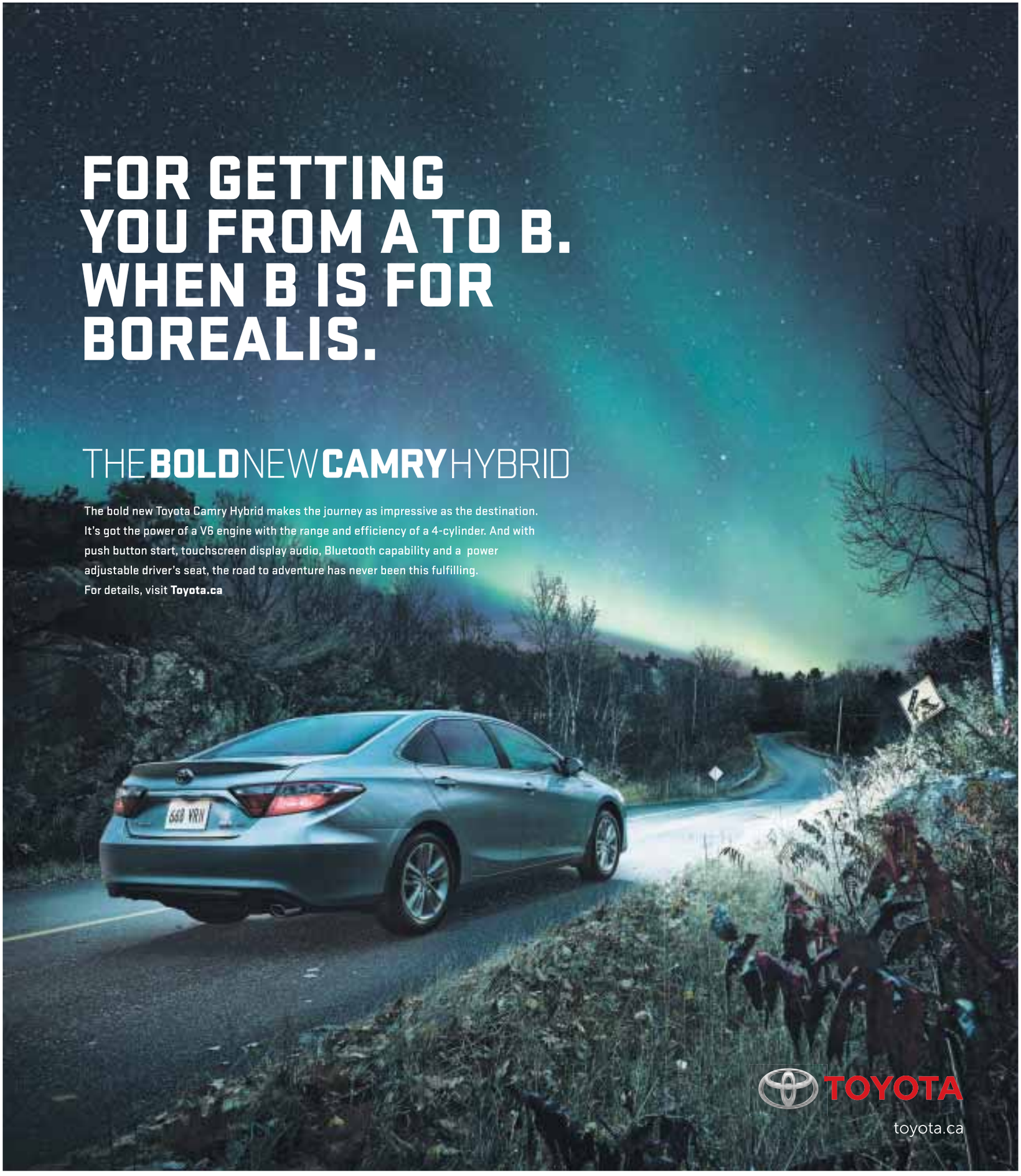
HYBRID IS FUN AND EFFICIENT

The company that introduced the hybrid certainly knows a thing or two about making it better. Along with its gas engine Camry sibling, the Camry Hybrid is also new for 2015, with sleek new styling, premium interior and features, and new suspension and chassis tuning for improved and athletic driving dynamics that you might not expect from a gasoline-electric vehicle.

The sporty new Camry Hybrid SE has been added to the lineup to give hybrid buyers even more choice in trim levels. Toyota's engineers enhanced the front suspension's stabilizer bar and control arm bushings for a sharper steering feel and improved ride quality, while the stability control system is retuned for smoother intervention and more natural feel. Of course they did — it's a natural fit for an engine and electric motor combination that delivers 200 horsepower.

The aggressive new styling features a trapezoid mesh grille, strong upward-swept body line, sleek headlamps, and wraparound tail lamps. Inside, the Camry Hybrid includes premium seating material, roomier feel, and high-tech connectivity features such as available wireless charging for select smartphones. With available sport suspension, the 2015 Camry Hybrid is as much about fun as it is about efficiency.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS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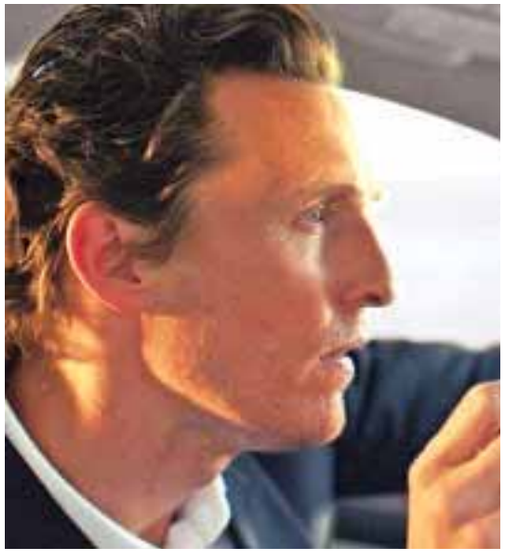
All right, all right, all right



Lincoln sales spiked after Matthew McConaughey's much-ridiculed commercials for the MKC, in which he channels his True Detective character Rust Cohle. Could other automakers tap into Matt's vast repertoire?

MIKE DOJC drive@metronews.ca

Texas touch. Character study finds several good matches for Matt's charm

Lincoln sales surged 25 per cent in the U.S. last month — recording the marque's top October tally in seven years.

The sudden spike may have been powered by the navel-gazing Matthew McConaughey advertising campaign, where the actor uses his True Detective character Rust Cohle to deliver a reflective soliloquy while driving the MKC SUV.

Although widely spoofed by everyone from SNL to South Park, it looks like Lincoln gets the last laugh.

So we wondered what other vehicles could benefit from the Oscar winner's Texan twinkle and wide range of captivating characters.

Ron Woodroof Dallas Buyers Club Challenger Hellcat

McConaughey reportedly dropped 47 pounds to play HIV-afflicted electrician Ron Woodroof, who defiantly hawks Peptide T and other non-FDA-approved meds to legions of fellow patients.

That takes extreme dedication to your craft,

a sentiment obviously shared in spades by the automotive engineers at Dodge.

Why else would they put 707 horses under the hood of a production sedan, giving it the power to gallop an NHRA-certified quarter-mile in just 11 seconds.

The pitch: "Life is fast — zero-to-60 in 3.7 seconds fast; top speed of 328 km/h fast. Let me give y'all a little news flash: You only got one life. Make it mean something."

Ron Woodroof

Tripp Failure to Launch Jeep Renegade

In a memorable turn from McConaughey's mid-2000s rom-com pumpkin patch, he plays Tripp, a charming, happy-go-lucky commitment-phobe still living with his parents at age 35.

Always up for a good time, this cute and compact Italian-built all-wheel-drive baby Jeep with a slick exterior and a wily sense of adventure fits Tripp's world view to a tee — especially the off-roading Trailhawk model.

Tripp

The pitch: "I'm not afraid of love, but I'm an explore-all-terrains kind of guy — dirt roads, bumpy sand dunes, snow-covered stretches. All are grand.

"In the end it's all about epic fun and that's not just good for me, but civilization as a whole."

David Wooderson Dazed and Confused Corvette

Wooderson is a self-assured, chilled-out ladies man. He likes his rock American and loud, and his T-shirts tight and white, with a pack of smokes in the sleeve.

The seventh-generation Corvette, a 6.2-litre V-8 packing 460 hp and 465 lb.-ft. of torque is practically an eHarmony love match. It rocks out so much that the CEO of Chevy Korea says the model has been delayed due to the country's regulations on vehicle noise.

The pitch: "That's why I love these new Corvettes: I keep getting older but they stay the same age."

David Wooderson

Cooper Interstellar Tesla Model X

Cooper is a chiselled space cowboy who leaves his family behind to hurtle through a cosmic wormhole to a distant galaxy in search of inhabitable terra firma in hopes of saving mankind.

The hotly anticipated Model X and its electric powertrain may not reach superluminal speeds but the crossover certainly keeps up with this selfless hero's boldness and daring. The trailblazing car features rear falcon doors, which fold as they swing so they can open up in much tighter spaces.

The pitch: "Our greatest accomplishments cannot be behind us because our destiny lies on the open road ahead of us."

Cooper

Dallas Magic Mike Ford F-150

As the eccentric club owner of an all-male revue and the most impassioned hip gyrator east of the Mississippi, Matt revs up his outer beefcake and inner showman.

These qualities exemplify the slimmed-down F-150, which eschews a conventional steel body for military-grade aluminum alloy as ding resistant as Matty M's abs.

An off-roading beast that can dance in the dirt, this spry pickup likes it rough and tumble.

The pitch: "You are not just driving, you are fulfilling every other car's wildest fantasies. You have the payload and the torque and the fuel economy they've only dreamed about."

Dallas

AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Don't be afraid to approach people in positions of power if you have an idea to put forward or if you would like to put yourself forward for promotion. You are guaranteed a positive response.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
There will be no end of opportunities to complete outstanding tasks over the next few days, so forget about your daily schedule and have fun.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Accept that what people say is what they mean. If a friend has promised to do something for you then you must trust that they intend to deliver.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Don't waste time wishing you were somewhere else or doing something else. You are exactly where you need to be and you are doing exactly what you are supposed to be doing.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
If you apply pressure in the right place today you will accomplish something huge. Act as if you have total self-belief and others will be so intimidated they will help.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
The outcome of a personal dilemma is in the balance but you are the one whose actions will decide which way it tips.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
The planets indicate you are destined to offend someone over the next 24 hours. So, whatever it is you are planning, do it quickly and do it well.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
With so much energy at your disposal you don't have to stick to the same old routines. Whatever natural talents you possess you can and you must make them work for you.

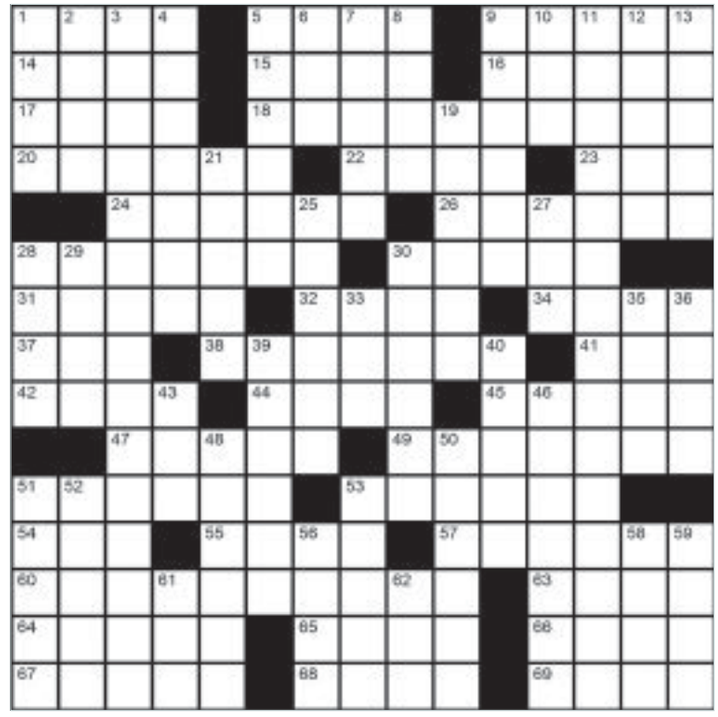
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You have business to finish and you must not let anyone stand in your way. Don't let yourself be distracted by issues that have no relevance to the task.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You may think if you take a risk it will pay off but can you be sure? Unless you are 100 per cent sure of the outcome you should play safe.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
A rival will try to intimidate you into doing things their way but their overly assertive attitude will make you want to do the opposite. Can you be sure that it isn't a double bluff? Maybe it's best to do nothing at all.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Introduce new methods into your daily routine. If you can do that then what you feared would take days to complete can be dealt with in hours.

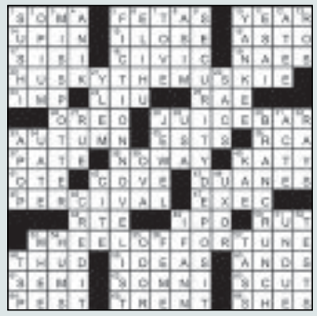
Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across
1. Finale, in music
5. Adroit
9. "__ Judy"
14. Basketball great Mr. O'Neal, to fans
15. Swear
16. Flubbed
17. Nitassinan is their homeland
18. Adventure sport in Golden, BC
20. Broken Scene link (Canadian band)
22. Like, green-style
23. "Fee! __! Foe! Fum!"
24. Malice
26. Super happy
28. Newfoundland town Raleigh's funny old name: 3 wds.
30. Grant
31. Delete
32. Role
34. Rich earth
37. Fish type
38. Halifax's NBL Canada team
41. Wood sorrel
42. Carson of "The Voice"
44. "Assuming that's true...": 2 wds.
45. __ of Canada (High honour)
47. Stephen King fictional town in Maine
49. Treaty city in 1713 in The Netherlands
51. "Ditto here!": 3 wds.
53. Canadian coins: D.G. Regina = Dei __ Regina (By the grace of God, the Queen)
54. Rolaid alternative
55. Canadian actor Raymond (b.1917 - d.1993)
57. Rolling Stone editor/publisher, Jann S. __
60. __-__ with Fish (Artwork by Inuit artist Pitseolak Ashoona)
63. Charlotte's Jane
64. "Robin Hood: __ Tights" (1993): 2 wds.
65. Raise [abbr.]
66. Tomato type
67. Paradises
68. Remain
69. Crack

Down
1. Canuck spy agency, for short
2. "My Gawd!": 2 wds.
3. Current song by Canadian band The New Pornographers: 2 wds.
4. Thomas __ (Theologian of the 13th-century)
5. "The Blue __" (1946) starring Veronica Lake
6. Hit album in 2002: '__-Olution'
7. Actor Scott
8. Identical
9. Robert Louis Stevenson physician
10. Mr. Geller
11. __ __ Provincial Park, in BC
12. Canadian film trophy, formerly
13. Advanced hesitantly
19. Slender
21. Fossil resin
25. Epitomize
27. "You've Got Mail." co.
28. Listen
29. Field
30. Arthurian attire
33. Years: French
35. Banda __ (City in Sumatra in Indonesia)
36. Market
39. Open the windows: 2 wds.
40. South's opposite ...in Spanish
43. Even so
46. Carl and Rob
48. Ms. Givens'
50. Garish
51. Todd Rundgren song: "Hello __ __"
52. Fooled
53. Actor Rupert
56. MLB figs.
58. Ms. Bombeck
59. Harvest
61. Old coin of Japan
62. Record label for Victor?

Yesterday's Crossword

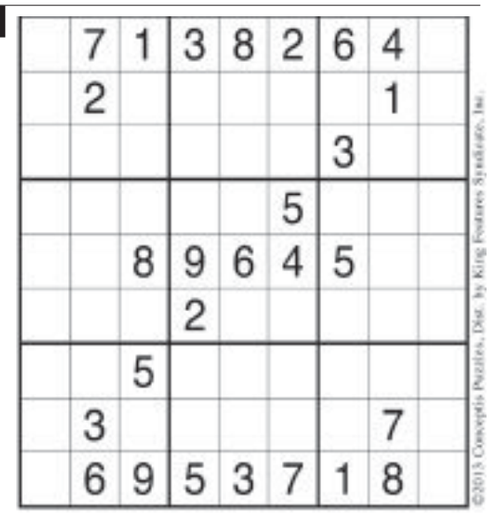


Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



Yesterday's Sudoku

3	2	4	8	9	5	1	6	7
8	9	6	1	3	7	4	2	5
1	7	5	4	6	2	3	9	8
6	3	7	9	2	4	5	8	1
4	1	8	6	5	3	9	7	2
9	5	2	7	8	1	6	3	4
7	6	1	3	4	8	2	5	9
2	4	3	5	7	9	8	1	6
5	8	9	2	1	6	7	4	3

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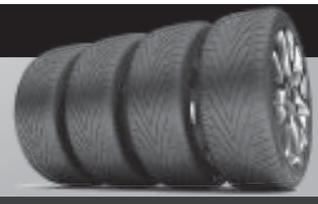

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